

The **Bulletin**



Publication of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

Volume 77, Number 6

November - December 2023

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

IFA Board Members Attend Networking Conference



Items Discussed

Iowa Tire Program, Iowa LOSAP program Kansas Firefighter Relief Act, Kansas Firefighter License Tag, Nebraska Governor Volunteer First Responder Summit, EMS is an Essential Service, Recruitment and Retention

Member Benefits - Fire School Discounts, Association Newspaper, Lobbyist, NVFC Directors, Magazines, AD&D Policies, Grant Program for purchase of equipment, LOSAP Program

Health and Wellness Programs - Go Green Clean campaign for Illinois, CARE Program, Cancer Awareness, Suicide Awareness

Triplefrescue.com

Nine states had representatives at the conference.

The Bulletin

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The Bulletin

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Bulletin Deadlines:

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

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Mission Statement

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

President's Message



It's with deep regret that we announce the passing of a member of our Board of Directors. Chief Ed Myers served on the IFA Board of Directors for 22 years. Ed was a true team player and represented the firefighters of Illinois to the best of his ability. Ed was mostly very quiet at our board meetings but when he spoke everyone listened because we knew that Ed possessed the knowledge and experience that's needed to make informed decisions that would move the Association in the right direction. Ed will be sadly missed by the Board and the firefighters that he represented. Please keep Ed's family in your prayers and thoughts.

Assistant Chief Myers started his firefighter career over 50 years ago where he rose through the ranks to attain the rank of Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention for the Sauk Village Fire Department. Ed just recently retired from Sauk Village.

Our annual meeting and Down & Dirty Conference was held last month at the Fire Service Institute. There were 123 firefighters from 58 fire departments who attended training at the Institute. Our new 3-day training schedule seemed to be successful and allowed firefighters to attend either 1-2-or 3 days of training at one low price. Our Friday night guest speaker, Captain Mike Gagliano from the Seattle Fire Department, provided an awesome presentation on Achieving Firehouse Excellence, with five key areas that can turn any firehouse into the type of place that enables firefighters to thrive and fulfill their calling. We look forward to seeing Mike in the future to share his experiences and enable firefighters to thrive at their firehouse.

IFSI provided the utmost in training at their facility. They continue to raise the bar for training and firefighter education. Thanks to Director Keiken and his fantastic staff for another year of above and beyond training.

At the annual meeting a new Director, Dale Mueller from Reynolds Fire Department, was elected for a four year term. Congratulations to Dale! The Directors look forward to working with you.

Also, at the annual meeting, the Bylaws of the Association were amended by a vote of the Association members present at the meeting. While the changes were mostly wording corrections and clarifications, there were other changes to parts of the bylaws. The entire Bylaws can be viewed on our website and in this issue of the Bulletin.

Resolutions were passed by the membership honoring Ed Myers for his tenure on the IFA Board of Directors, John Swan for his recent retirement as President of the IFA Board, the late Reverend Weidlich for his 15 year tenure as Chaplain of the IFA, and the Illinois Fire Service Institute for their partnership with IFA since 1925, the first year of Fire College. All of these recipients were very deserving of these Resolutions.

The holidays are fast approaching. I hope everyone has a bountiful Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas. STAY SAFE!

Terry Ford, President IFA



Legislative update

By Margaret Vaughn, IFA Legislative Lobbyist

IFA Lobbyist Honors Chicago Fire Commissioner at Annual Fire Prevention Week Luncheon

At the October 5th Annual Fire Prevention Week Lunch Chicago Fire Commissioner Annette Nance-Holt was presented a special recognition award from the Camp I am Me, IL Fire Safety Alliance for her tremendous advocacy fighting the expansion of firework sales in Illinois. The award was presented by IFA lobbyist Margaret Vaughn, who mentioned how the Commissioner brought her top brass to Springfield last spring to lobby against fireworks legislation and also held a press conference with key Chicago aldermen right after a series of fires and injuries, caused by 4th of July fireworks to raise public awareness of the dangerous consequences of any expansion in sales could bring.



Chiefs Must Submit Volunteer Roster to OSFM by Jan 12th to Qualify for Tax Credit

The new \$500 volunteer state tax credit law pushed by IFA will apply is set to apply to the 2023 tax year. In order to qualify for a volunteer to qualify, by January 12th of each year, a chief must electronically update their fire department roster through the OSFM PSE Portal (Personnel, Standards & Education) and then include a list individuals who: 1) volunteered for their department for a) minimum of 9 months in the previous tax year 2) are not full-time career firefighters for any other department, and 3) earned less than \$5,000 in stipends. There is also a separate application that the volunteer must submit on Illinois Department of Revenue website which will be available February 1, 2024. For additional instructions and link to the application go to IDOR Volunteer Emergency Worker Tax Credit Info

IFA honors Sen. Belt



Sen Christopher Belt (D-Swansea) and his wife Stephanie, attended the IFA Annual Conference in Champaign and the senator was presented with an award of appreciation for his sponsorship of the tax credit legislation. Sen. Belt had worked with IFA on the legislation for several years and participated in three press conferences during the time to raise public awareness on the shortage of volunteer firefighters and the importance need for its passage.

Office of the State Fire Marshal



The Illinois Department of Revenue has updated its website to provide information on the Volunteer Emergency Worker Tax Credit by visiting their website at <https://tax.illinois.gov/individuals/credits/volunteer-emergency-worker-credit.html>. The volunteer emergency worker credit is a \$500 non-refundable credit that can be used to reduce your Illinois individual income tax liability. The credit is awarded to volunteer fire service emergency workers that apply for, qualify for, and are awarded the credit. The aggregate amount of all tax credits awarded in any calendar year may not exceed \$5,000,000. Credits shall be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Illinois Department of Revenue classifies a volunteer emergency worker as a person who serves as a member, other than on a full-time career basis, of a fire department, fire protection district, or fire protection association and has a State Fire Marshal Identification Number (SFMID) issued by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and who does not serve as a member on a full-time career basis for another fire department, fire protection district, fire protection association, or government entity.

What do you need to do to qualify to receive this credit?

- have served as a volunteer emergency worker for at least 9 months during the taxable year.
- have not received compensation for your services as a volunteer emergency worker of more than \$5,000 for the taxable year.
- be included on the list provided by the chief of your local fire department, district, or office, to the OSFM by **January 12**, confirming you met the previous two qualifications.
- submit a complete online application with IDOR on the date listed above.
- be one of the first 10,000 qualified applicants.

If you need to check your status or register to receive your SFMID number through the OSFM please visit our portal at <https://webapps.sfm.illinois.gov/PSEPortal/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fPSEPortal>. Also, encourage your Chief, or if you are the Chief, make sure your departments rosters are updated, and the list of eligible members be sent to OSFM by January 12 so your members can be eligible to apply for this tax credit. If you are having an issue or have questions about updating the roster, please reach out to the OSFM. We have a video available at <https://youtu.be/9XkS2XwKZmM?si=r3OBttTLTBMmIFCj> that has helpful tips on how to update the roster.

Your updated rosters will not only help your members to become eligible to apply for the tax credit, but it will also help them to be able to take trainings and provide the OSFM with a more accurate picture of the Illinois Fire Service as a whole. Again, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the OSFM, we are always willing to help you with our portal or answer any other training questions.

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IFA has partnered with SAVVIK Buying Group to provide our members with access to equipment, supplies, apparel and even vehicles at group buying prices. We have sent SAVVIK a list of our members and their contact information and once SAVVIK has set up the list, our members will be receiving a notification like below. You will not be able to register your account until you receive this notice. The notice is being sent to the main contact the we have on file for our member departments.

If you do not receive your notification or if you are having problems creating your account, contact Secretary Treasurer at 618-830-3961 and he will assist you in setting up your SAVVIK account.

Once you are signed up with SAVVIK, there is another benefit for your members at SAVVIK Perks. SAVVIK Perks provides discounts for your members on entertainment, food, travel and many other personal discounts.

Illinois Firefighters Association- IFA Member

Welcome to the Savvik Buying Group!

Savvik Member # 28828

(Please note, the above Savvik member # 28828 is exclusive to the Association record only. Each member will have their own unique number. This is how we track vendor sales for revenue share back to the Association.)

Savvik Membership:

Your agency is a new member of the Savvik Buying Group through the IFA. This membership is FREE as a benefit from your association.

Savvik is a Public Safety GPO with over 13,000 agency members who have access to volume discount pricing on various products and services. Our vendor programs are competitively bid and publicly awarded. As a Savvik member you now have access to over 80+ vendor programs.

Savvik will give back 1/3 of your association sales revenue to the IFA

Member Login Instructions:

Go to <https://savvik.com>

Click on LOGIN, follow the instructions to set up your personal username and password.

About SAVVIK Buying Group

Our Beginnings

The Savvik Buying Group, formally known as the North Central EMS Corporation, is a non-profit organization owned by its members and formed to reduce the financial impact of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 within the EMS industry. Our mission is to provide members with a mechanism to achieve cost reductions, which has evolved into a group-purchasing program. Savvik values quality supplies and equipment for the members, at the industry's best prices.

The phrase "at the industry's best prices" plays an even more important role today than in previous years as the Medicare Fee Schedule took effect on April 1, 2002. Ambulance services across the country have seen a drastic reduction in their Medicare reimbursements which accounts for up to 75% of their revenue. This drastic reduction in revenue decreases their capital budgets and curbs their purchases if not determine their entire existence.

Where We're Going

Membership is comprised of ambulance services, fire departments, first responder groups, police/sheriff departments, industrial emergency response teams, and other organizations related to the EMS industry. Savvik is proud to focus on membership nationwide. Our intent is to offer the Electronic Patient Care Reporting and Data Collection contract to all Savvik members regardless of their physical location.

An amazing result of our success was the formation of The Savvik Foundation in 2000. Savvik invests back into the industry! A portion of our excess revenues are returned to regional, state and national EMS associations as well as being donated to The Savvik Foundation so that it can complete its mission of leading industry efforts in such areas as safety, efficient operations, education, research and national consensus building.

We're dedicated to improving the general wellbeing of the public safety industry as a whole. Our effectiveness increases with commitments from our vendor partners to provide Savvik members with quality products and services at the industry's best prices.

Savvik has enjoyed significant growth over the last few years by developing partnerships (including revenue sharing relationships) with regional, state and national EMS associations. Savvik has fifty-one group affiliates that include membership to the Savvik Buying Group as part of their group dues structure. The associations that participate in our group membership program receive quarterly reports and payments from our office. Payments reflect a portion of the contract management fee of the total sales their members purchased from our vendors.

Membership Includes:

Access to National Public Bids – you can piggyback for free!

Large vendor contracts – save time and money!

Online marketplace – 5.11 Gear at the lowest prices!

Individual savings programs – benefits you can share with everyone in your agency

All of this for FREE!

If you have not received your registration email from SAVVIK, contact Secretary/Treasurer Kerry Federer at 618-882-4783 or by email at editor@illinoisfirefighters.org.

SPECIAL PROJECT #SK885

FIRST RESPONSE

RIPLEY TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT
ALAMO, INDIANA



CAD DRAWING,
SPEC SHEET,
VIDEO TOUR

12' RESPONSE ONE #SK885

FORD F-550 4x4 SUPER DUTY 2-DOOR CHASSIS, HEAVY DUTY STAINLESS-STEEL BODY AND SUB-FRAME, BUCKSTOP BRUSH GUARD WITH RECEIVER, WIRING, AND WARN 12,000# WINCH, DARLEY 1 1/2 AGE 24K 120 GPM PUMP, 250-GALLON POLY SKID TANK, WHELEN WARNING LIGHT PACKAGE, CUSTOMIZED COMPARTMENTS, NIGHT SCAN CHIEF 1.8 600W LIGHT TOWER, AND MORE.

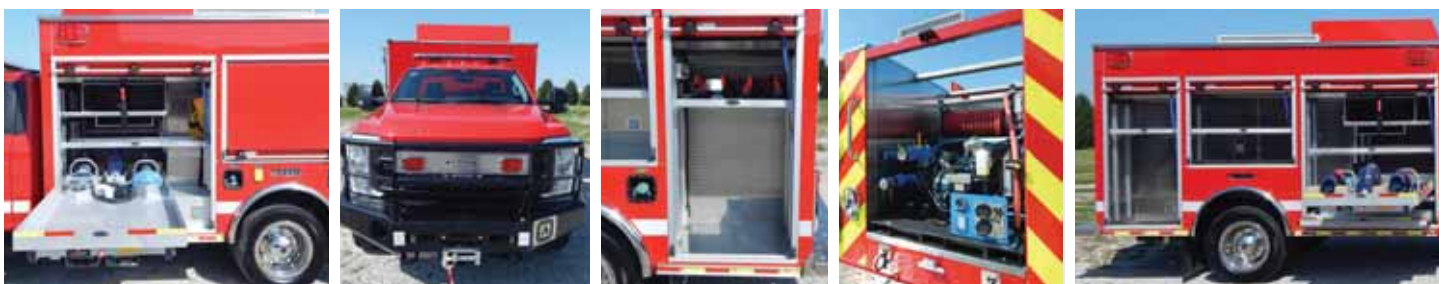
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U.S. District Court Issues Reminder to Local Governments on Military Leave Benefits

by John Motylinski & Brian Johnston
Ottosen DiNolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd.

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois recently reminded Illinois local governments of their obligations under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act ("USERRA") and Illinois law to provide their service member-employees with their statutory rights.

In *Mueller v. City of Joliet*, U.S. National Guard member David Mueller was a police officer with the City of Joliet. No. 17 C 7938, 2023 WL 6388246, at *1 (N.D. Ill. Sept. 29, 2023). In March 2016, Mueller voluntarily joined the Illinois National Guard Counterdrug Task Force—a full-time position that required approximately 40 hours per week. Mueller worked in this position for about four months.

Mueller then filed a lawsuit claiming that during his full-time National Guard service against the City of Joliet and its Police Chief and Deputy Chief. He alleged that those defendants denied him employment benefits in violation of USERRA and related Illinois law. Specifically, Mueller claimed the City forced him to use vacation while he was deployed and otherwise denied him vacation time accrual and differential pay.

USERRA is a federal statute that requires employers—public and private alike—to afford military service members with their "benefits of employment" while they are performing military service. The term "benefit of employment" is broadly defined and encompasses perks like vacation time and pension creditable service. Failure to abide by USERRA can be catastrophic and expensive for employers.

For example, the *Mueller* court concluded that a jury could find that the City illegally required him to use vacation time to cover his military service. Potentially, this might constitute a serious USERRA violation, since an employee cannot be required to use vacation time to cover military service. On the flip side, the City argued that Mueller *chose* to use his vacation time, and that does not run afoul of USERRA. Yet, the court could not weigh the evidence, so it found a trial was necessary on this point.

Additionally, the court thought a jury trial was needed about whether the Police Department's leadership could be separately liable. According to Mueller, the Chief and Deputy Chief had supervisory authority over the entire Department and thus could be sued individually for their role in making the potentially problematic military leave decisions. The court refused to throw this claim out.

Yet, the court did dispose of Mueller's claim that the City violated USERRA by not allowing him to accrue vacation time while he was on military leave. Indeed, the City was able to provide evidence that it *did* allow Mueller to accrue vacation time. So, the court found that this precluded part of Mueller's claim against the City.

Then, the court treated Mueller's claims arising under Illinois law. At the time of the underlying conduct, there was a statute in effect known as the Illinois Military Leave of Absence Act. That allowed "differential pay" to service members. As an over generalization, differential pay is the difference a service member-employee's military earnings and what they would have made working for their public employer. In that sense, differential pay is meant to make up the difference between what Mueller made in the military and what he could have made working for the City. Importantly, the Illinois Military Leave of Absence Act has been repealed and replaced with the Illinois Service member Employment and Reemployment Rights Act ("ISERRA"), but that new law still requires a variant of "differential pay."

Notwithstanding, Mueller attempted to argue that USERRA—not the IMLAA or ISERRA—required the City to provide him with differential pay. The court disagreed and ruled that "there is no argument under USERRA than an adverse employment action could be found with a lack of differential pay."

Mueller stands as a lesson: if your employees need to be absent for military duty, it is imperative that they be allowed to go *without* depriving them of any benefit of employment. If a local government requires such employees to use vacation time, for example, they face a risk of liability under USERRA. Mueller also shows that military leave law is evolving and often difficult to pin down. So, if you encounter a military leave issue, we recommend you seek the assistance of counsel immediately.

John E. Motylinski is a partner with the law firm of Ottosen DiNolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd. Naperville. John graduated summa cum laude from the University of Illinois College of Law and holds an undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He focuses in the areas of local government, municipal, public pension, and labor and employment law.

Brian Johnston is a law clerk at Ottosen DiNolfo Hasenbalg & Castaldo, Ltd. in Naperville, Illinois. He is a second-year law student at the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law. Brian's involvement includes membership in the Review of Intellectual Property Law as a writer, Trial Advocacy and Dispute Resolution Honors Program as a mock trial team member, and President of the Labor and Employment Law Society.

Section VII



Constitution and By-Laws of the Illinois Firefighter's Association

ILLINOIS FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC. CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be: The Illinois Firefighter's Association, Incorporated, of the State of Illinois (IFA).

ARTICLE II

Mission Statement/Guiding Principles

Section 1. **Mission Statement.** Dedicated to the advancement of the Fire Service by providing leadership, the Association will proudly support the health and welfare of the community of firefighters in Illinois through education, training, benefits and information networking at the local, state and national levels.

Section 2. **Guiding Principles.** The Association will accomplish our mission through the following: (1) providing ethical leadership; (2) continuing to provide an Indemnity Fund; (3) strengthening conferences and seminars; (4) supporting scholarships and grants; (5) participating in state and national committees; (6) monitoring legislative programs; (7) improving the newsletter and website; (8) seeking legal counsel on firefighter issues; (9) cultivating bonds and friendships within the fire service; (10) collaborating with other organizations/associations and (11) Health and Safety training.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. **General Membership.** Membership in this Association shall consist of Fire Departments duly organized under the laws and ordinances of Cities, Villages, Towns, or any other political subdivision of the State, including Special Districts, Fire Protection Districts, and Departments organized by industry, Departments of Military installations, and Departments of State Institutions working under the authority of the political subdivision wherein located may also become members by complying with the Constitution and By-laws of this Association. Special Districts shall apply to any organized Fire Department that is not incorporated or is not operating

under the jurisdiction of a Fire Protection District or Municipality. Annual dues are set out in Article XIII, Section 5, Dues.

Section 2. **Past Officers.** All past officers of the Association are dues free members. All directors serving on the Executive Committee for ten or more years are dues free members. (See Article XIII, Section 7)

ARTICLE IV

Directors

Section 1. **Directors.** The Directors of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, 15 Directors (one of which shall be the Immediate Past President), and a Secretary/Treasurer. Directors will hold their respective offices until their successors shall be elected and qualified.

Section 2. **Executive Officers.** The Executive Officers shall consist of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Association.

The President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected for two (2) year terms with the President and Vice-President being elected in the opposite year of the Secretary/Treasurer.

Directors shall be elected for a four (4) year term with three (3) or four (4) being elected annually as terms expire. The immediate Past President shall serve as a Director. The Past President's term will run until the next President is elected, at which time the new immediate Past President will automatically fill this position.

Section 3. Qualifications for Serving as a Director

Persons interested in serving as a Director shall meet the following:

1. A minimum of 5 years as a member of the Association, including individual members and lifetime members.
2. Residency in the state of Illinois.
3. No felony convictions or convictions related to crimes against persons.
4. Availability to travel for meetings throughout the state to conduct Association business.

Section 4. **Vacancy.** If any vacancy shall occur for any reason in any office of this Association, except

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PRESIDENT, (and this vacancy would be automatically filled by the VICE-PRESIDENT) such vacancy *may* be filled by appointment by the PRESIDENT with the approval of the Directors of the Association, for the unexpired term for which said Director was elected. If the Immediate Past President office becomes vacant for any reason, it shall remain vacant until a new President is elected.

ARTICLE V

Duties of Executive Officers

Section 1. **President.** It shall be the duty of the President to preside over all meetings of the Association.

- a. To appoint members to all Standing Committees;
- b. To approve expenditures by signing checks received from the Secretary/Treasurer for payment; and,
- c. To sign all checks duly approved by the Directors of the Association.
- d. To appoint, with the advice and consent of the *Directors* of the Association: an Executive Manager to assist with the business of the Association.
- e. To appoint an assistant to the Secretary/Treasurer.
- f. To break ties in any tied vote.

Section 2. **Vice President.** It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform all the duties of the President in his absence or inability to perform his duties.

Section 3. **Secretary/Treasurer.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary/Treasurer to keep a complete and accurate record of the proceedings at all meetings of the Association.

- a. To prepare and sign all checks;
- b. To receive and answer all communications pertaining to the Association;
- c. To collect all monies due the Association;
- d. To keep an accurate account of receipts and make a report of all such receipts at the Annual Meeting of the Association;

- e. To collect information;
- f. To receive and collect all monies belonging to the Association and deposit the same in a FDIC insured depository approved by the Executive Officers of the Association immediately upon receipt of such funds;
- g. To issue checks when countersigned by the President;
- h. To prepare a complete monthly report of all receipts and disbursements for the Directors of the Association;
- i. To prepare a complete fiscal report to be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting of the Association.

He/she shall execute a bond in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) approved by, and filed with the President. Said bond to conform to all requirements of the State laws governing corporate Officers and be paid for by the Association. He/she will turn over to his/her successor all property in his/her possession belonging to the Association as soon as his/her successor has qualified.

The salary of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be set by the Directors of the Association and they shall be paid from the General Fund.

Section 4. **Duties of Directors:** Directors shall support the president and the Association by acting on issues and /or projects as they arise and brought to the attention of the directors in the best interest of the Association and Firefighters of Illinois. Directors shall also serve on Committees as appointed by the President and carry out the duties and/or responsibilities associated with those committee positions.

Directors shall attend meetings as called by the president to conduct the business of the Association. Failure to attend at least fifty percent (50%) of the meetings called by the president in any twelve month period shall be cause for removal from the board.

Section 5. **Reimbursements.** The Association shall defray the expenses of the Directors of the Association and/or authorized committee members while on official business of the Association. The President and/or Executive Committee of the Association shall review, and if reasonable and appropriate, shall approve and authorize

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all such expenditures of the Illinois Firefighters Association, Incorporated.

Directors of the Association or other authorized committee members and/or delegate(s) shall receive reasonable travel expense and food allowance per day as established by the Executive Committee of the Association to meet current economic conditions. Travel expense to be paid per mile based on actual road miles driven or by an approved road mileage chart or upon submittal of receipts in actual expenses incurred for other methods of travel. In addition, members will be reimbursed for actual amount expended for lodging. These expenses to be paid to members while on official business of the Association, as approved by the Directors of the Association. For the Annual Meeting, Directors of the Association shall receive expenses not to exceed mileage, one day's food allowance and one day's lodging.

Section 6. **Expenditures.** All expenditures of the Association presented to the Secretary/Treasurer for payment shall be paid in the following manner:

- a. The Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare a check stating the purchase or expenses incurred and the amount of such expenditure, sign check, and forward the President for his approval.
- b. The President shall approve the expenditure by signing the check. The President shall then forward the check to the debtor of the Association.
- c. The Secretary/Treasurer, upon receiving a copy of the check signed by the President of the Association, shall file the copy with his records.
- d. All monies, accounts with financial institutions, and checks of the Association are to be established so that any two signatures of the President, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, or Executive Manager are required.

ARTICLE VI

Executive Manager

Section 1. **Executive Manager.** The president may appoint, with the advice and consent of the Directors of the Association, an executive manager to assist with the business of the Association.

Section 2. **Executive Manager General Duties:**

The Executive manager shall serve the Directors of the Association, and membership as a manager of the day-to-day operations of the Association providing support services to all and serves the Illinois Firefighter's Association Foundation *Directors* and membership as the manager of the day-to day operations of the Foundation providing support services to all. Actual expectations for the position may change based on the direction of the Association President and Directors of the Association and as set forth in the position's job description. This position serves at the will of the Directors of the Association. This position is expected to be a part-time position unless work load demands change, at which time the Directors shall review the position requirements. The Executive Manager will report to the President of the Association.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings - Quorum - Fiscal Year

Section 1. **Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting of the Association shall convene on any date between the end of our fiscal year (December 31) and the end of the next calendar year. This date to be set by the Directors of the Association in each and every year at such a place as the majority of the members present designate.

Section 2. **Cancellation.** Failure to hold any meeting at the time designated in the constitution shall in no way indicate a dissolution of the Association.

Section 3. **Quorum.** A quorum at any regular or special meeting of the Association shall consist of forty (40) *Delegates in good standing*. Conference registrations will be used as credentials.

Section 4. **Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year of the Association shall be from January 1 through December 31.

Section 5. **Dues.** Membership dues of the Association shall run concurrently with the Fiscal Year of the Association, January 1 through December 31.

Section 6. **Director Meetings.** The President shall call a meeting of the Directors of the Association in conjunction with the Annual Meeting and other meetings as needed throughout the year to conduct the business of the Association. The time and place of said meetings to be at the discretion of the President, but it is intended that they be as centrally located as practical and/or coincide with other meetings or functions within the Association or other fire service related assemblies. Special meetings

will be called by the President at the request of any three (3) members of the *Directors* of the Association .

ARTICLE VIII

Audits

Section 1. **Annual Audit.** The accounts of the general fund and indemnity fund shall be audited immediately after December 31 of each year, by a Certified Public Accountant selected by the elected executive officers of the Association. The accountant's report shall be presented at the Annual Meeting each year.

Section 2. **Audit Review.** All books of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be available at the annual meeting for inspection by any member of the Illinois Firefighters Association.

ARTICLE IX

Committees

Section 1. **Standing Committees.** The Standing Committees of the Association shall be as follows: Budget/Finance, Bulletin/Redbook, Credentials, Education/Training/Conference Program, Conference/Exhibit, Legislative/Judiciary, Membership, Memorial, National Volunteer Fire Council, Registration, Resolution. Changes may be made in the Standing Committees as determined by the President of the Association.

Section 2. **Duties of Committees.** The duties of the Directors of the Association shall be to have published the proceedings of the Association, to transact all business of the Association during the time intervening between the annual meetings. They shall constitute a Board of Directors for the management of all funds of the Association. At all meetings of the Directors of the Association, a majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum and a majority of such quorum may determine all questions.

Section 3. **Advisory Committee.** The Advisory Committee shall consist of all past Directors of the Association to serve as consultants to the Directors of the Association or to serve in special capacities at the invitation of the President or Directors of the Association when the best interests of the Association may require it.

Section 4. **Meetings.** All committees shall meet at such time and place as may be designated by the chairperson of the committee.

ARTICLE X

Election of Directors

Section 1. **Election.** All *Directors* shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the Association by preprinted ballot furnished at the time of election by the Credentials Committee to duly authorized delegates.

Section 2. **Procedure.** The voter(s) shall check the name of the candidates of his/her choice for each office voted upon and deposit the same in the Ballot Box provided for that purpose.

In order to cast a vote, the individual must prove membership in the department for which he is casting a vote. This proof shall be members' conference registration.

The balloting shall be conducted by three (3) judges appointed by the President, who will count the ballots cast for each candidate and announce the election of the candidate receiving a plurality of votes cast.

Section 3. **Candidates.** Any person desiring to be a candidate for any office of this Association must submit a letter of intent to the office of the Secretary/Treasurer not more than 90 days nor less than 30 days prior to the starting date of the Annual Meeting. Said letter to be sent to the Secretary/Treasurer by email, fax, mail or in person. If by email, fax or mail, a record of the transaction should be made and kept.

All candidates for the office of President and Vice-President must come from the Directors of the Association and have no less than three (3) years as a Director of the Association in addition to submitting a letter of intent. The said letter of intent to the Secretary/Treasurer will place that person's name on the official ballot. Candidates must have attended, in person, at least 50% of the previous year's meetings.

All candidates for each office will be listed on the ballot in the order that their letters of intent have been received by the Secretary/Treasurer. The present Secretary/Treasurer must file his/her letter of intent with the President in accord with the above requirements.

Section 4. **Resumes.** A resume is required for any Director position and must be submitted with a request to be a Director or to run for any elected Director position in accord with the By-Law procedures. Present Directors

running for re-election must also submit a resume with their letter of intent, if not already on file with the Secretary/Treasurer.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

Section 1. **Amendments.** This Association shall have full power, at the Annual Meeting to alter, amend, or revise this Constitution or By-Laws, but it shall be necessary for a two-thirds vote of the members of the Association present entitled to vote, to do the same, providing the proposed Amendment shall be submitted, in writing, to all member departments at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting. Publication in the Bulletin or email at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting shall serve as written notice.

ARTICLE XIII

By-Laws

Section 1. **Membership.** All individual members of each Department shall also by virtue of their membership in such Department, be members of this Association, so long as said Department is organized as such by a Fire Protection District, City, Village, Town, Special District, or any other political subdivision wherein located; also, private Fire Departments owned and controlled by Corporations, Departments of Military Installations, or Departments of State Institutions working under the authority of the political subdivision wherein situated may become members of the Association, and shall remain a member of the Association so long as it operates under and complies with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association. Should any Department refuse to pay its annual dues when called upon to do so or for other just cause, it shall be debarred from any of the privileges of this Association, and may be dropped from the Roll by vote of the Directors of the Association.

Section 2. **Delegates.** Every Fire Department in the State of Illinois, which is a member of this Association, shall be entitled to two (2) delegates to the Annual Meeting and when represented by two delegates shall be entitled to two (2) votes. If a department is represented by only one (1) delegate, then that department and that delegate shall only be allowed one (1) vote. All elective directors, past and present, and lifetime members, in good standing shall be considered delegates and be entitled to one (1) vote each as long as they have not

already cast a vote as a delegate for their department.

Section 3. **Forfeiture of Membership.** All members and Associate Members represented in this Association must be in full accord and good standing in the Fire Department or organization where they are located; and if at any time they are not so, they shall forfeit all benefits of membership in this Association, except Past Directors.

Section 4. **Qualifying Membership.** Any Department in the State can become a member of the Association by remitting to the Secretary/Treasurer the fee of \$15.00 for Administrative expenses and dues for one year. The Secretary/Treasurer shall then issue a certificate of membership.

Section 5. **Dues.** The annual dues shall be set by a majority vote of the members attending the Annual Meeting. Any intent to change the dues during the Annual Meeting must be announced and published at least 30 days prior to the start of the Annual Meeting. Dues must be paid for ensuing year no later than February 1st to be eligible to vote. Departments that shall remain delinquent beyond the current year cannot again become members in good standing until making a new application and paying the prescribed fee for membership.

Section 6. **Individual Memberships.** Any firefighter that belongs to a Fire Department in the State of Illinois, or any firefighter that has satisfied the retirement requirements of their Fire Department, may become an individual member. The member fire department delegates retain all voting rights, if they are a member of this association. Dues for individual members are twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per year, plus a one-time administrative fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00). Benefits of the individual memberships include: bi-monthly *Bulletin*, application to the IFA Firefighter Scholarship Program, reduced registration fee to the Annual Conference and the "Down and Dirty Firefighter Training"

Section 7. **Lifetime Membership:** Lifetime membership shall be given to any member that has accrued a total of ten (10) years service as a Director of the Association (CONSECUTIVE YEARS NOT REQUIRED) and shall thereafter not be assessed dues.

Section 8. **Honorary Membership** - Honorary Membership may be given to any person, association, or company, having demonstrated a tradition of exemplary service to the Illinois Firefighter's Association and the fire service, at the discretion and majority vote of the board.

The Bulletin

Honorary Membership shall be lifetime with no voting rights.

Section 9. **Associate Members.** Members of Actuarial Services, Fire Insurance Company Executives, and Sales Representatives engaged in servicing needs of the Fire Service, and persons engaged in any phase or facet of Fire Service Promotional work may become members of the Association by agreeing to abide by the Constitution and By-laws. They may not hold any office, nor will they exercise any voting privileges. Annual dues are set out in Article XIII, Section 5, Dues.

Section 10. **Special Fire Department Associate Members.** Any Illinois Firefighter's Association Member Fire Department that is absorbed by any other Fire Department, Fire District, Municipality, etc., may at the time of such absorption apply for a department membership in this Association. Annual dues are set out in Article XIII, Section 5, Dues. (This will be an Associate membership).

Said Associate Member Department upon payment of its annual dues may remain a member of this Association, but no member of this Associate Member Department may hold any office in the Illinois Firefighter's Association nor will they be allowed any voting privileges.

No member of said Associate Member Department will be allowed to remain in the Accident Indemnity Plan.

Section 11. **Resolutions:** All resolutions to come before the Annual Meeting shall first be presented to and approved by the Resolutions Committee. All approved resolutions will be presented to the general membership for adoption at the Annual Meeting.

Section 10. **Order of Business** - the following is an agenda guideline but the final agenda will be determined by the president:

1. Call to Order
2. Report of the President
3. Report of the Vice-President
4. Report of Secretary/Treasurer
5. Report of Committees
 - a. Bulletin/Redbook
 - b. Credentials
 - c. Education/Training/Conference
 - d. Conference/Exhibits
 - e. Legislative/Judiciary

- f. Membership
- g. Memorial
- h. National Volunteer Fire Council
- i. CRR
- j. Go Green Clean Initiative
- k. Registration
- l. Resolution
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
8. Report of the Credential Committee
9. Appointment of Election Judges
10. Election of Directors
11. Announcement of Next Annual Meeting
12. Report of Election Judges
13. Closing Remarks
14. Adjournment

As adopted and placed on file October 8, 2010 by membership vote at the Annual Meeting.

Revised and placed on file October 11, 2013 by membership vote at the Annual Meeting.

Revised and placed on file October 20, 2017 by membership vote at the Annual Meeting.

Revised and placed on file October 27, 2023 by membership vote at the Annual Meeting.



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- Transitional Housing/Recovery Home
- Family Involvement & Support
- Treatment for Co-Occurring Mental Health & Substance Use Disorders
- Medication-Assisted Treatment
- 24/7 Nursing & Medical/Psychiatric Attention in a Non-hospital Setting
- Alumni Recovery Community Support Groups & Social Events
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Importance of Visioning

with Chief Craig A. Haigh



Date: December 30, 2023

Time: 8-12 pm

Cost: \$50

Contact Chief Bryant to register.

815-994-6184

jeffbryant@amboyfire.com



25 N E Ave, Amboy, IL 61310



The Dynamic Fire Chief: Principles for Organizational Management (2022) will be available for sale and autograph.



Being a firefighter or EMS provider is tough. Remember that you're not alone.

Most people are aware of the physical demands that emergency responders face. But it's important to realize the impact on your mental wellbeing, too.

Taking care of your mental health is just as important as managing your physical health. The National Volunteer Fire Council is here to help with resources to Share the Load.

Share the Load™ Program

nvfc.org/help

A program that provides access to critical resources and information to help emergency responders and their families manage and overcome personal and work-related behavioral health challenges.

Directory of Behavioral Health Professionals

nvfc.org/phfd

A listing of local providers who are equipped and ready to help emergency responders, rescue workers, dispatchers, and their families with their behavioral health needs.

Psychologically Healthy Fire Departments Toolkit

nvfc.org/phfd

A comprehensive toolkit designed to help fire department leaders promote and support mental wellbeing among their members and create a successful, high-performing department.





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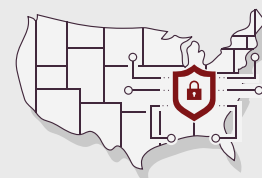
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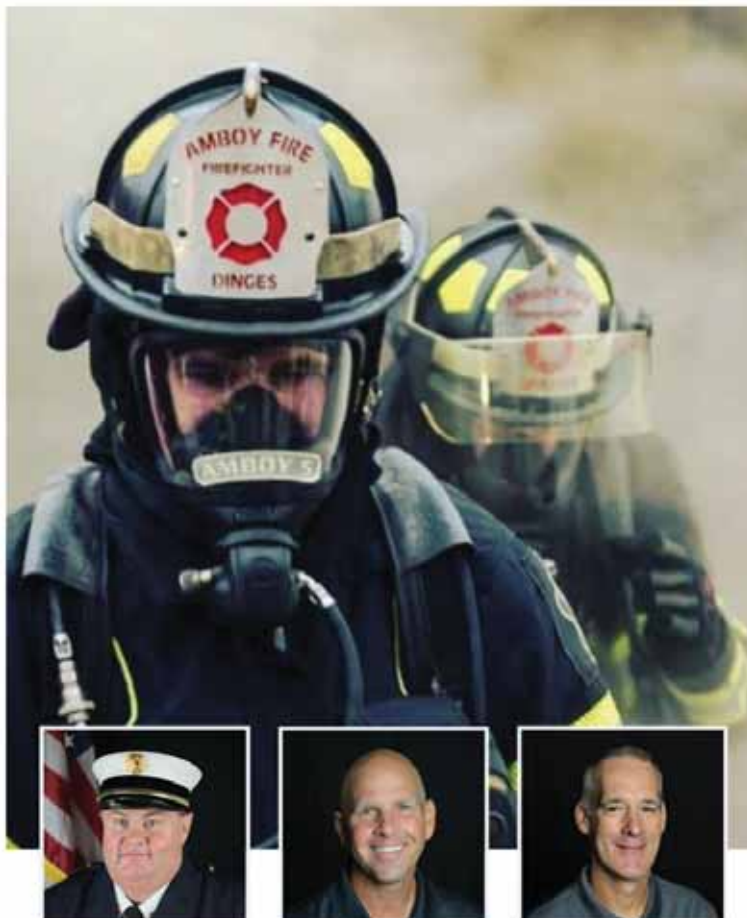
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2023
6:00PM-9:00PM**

**AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT
25 N East Ave.
Amboy, IL 61310**

Speaker: Chief Jeff Bryant –
Amboy, IL FPD

Chief Jeff Bryant has been successful with obtaining over 20 million dollars in grants and funding opportunities for his and surrounding departments. Jeff has built up a vast amount of knowledge on the subject over more than 30 years and wants to pass on and share his knowledge, tips, and tricks with all those that want to learn. During this event, Jeff will talk through local, state, and federal funding opportunities and the excess property program to help your department or organization on the next steps to take to help your department gain the equipment you need to protect your citizens and district.

There is no cost to attend this training, and enrollment is open to anyone wanting to learn more about the ways to help their department obtain funding. Products from Dinges Fire Company will be on display.



TO REGISTER

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Phone: 815-994-6184

If you want to see a specific item, please contact local Dinges Fire Sales Rep, Jeff Bryant prior to the event.



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Tim Olk Fundraiser

Dinges Fire Company will be hosting another raffle fundraiser as we have done in the past - this time to assist fellow brother, Tim Olk, with his overwhelming expenses from his diagnosis and treatment. Raffle ticket chances will be sold for \$20 with 100% of the \$20 being donated to Tim and his family.



Prizes for Drawings:

- 5.11 - PT-R 50# Weight Bag (x1)
- 5.11 - Rush 24 backpack (x1)
- 5.11 - Aros 1.5" K9 Collar, Medium (x1)
- 5.11 - Aros 1.5" K9 Collar, Large (x1)
- Boston Leather - Radio Strap Bundle (x1)
- Bulldog Hose - Swag Bag (x1)
- Eagle Engraving - Aluminum Axe Engraved with Logo of Choice (x1)
- Elkhart - Swag Pack - Sweatshirt, Beanie, Decals & Bottle Opener (x3)
- Fire Ninja - Combo Kit (x1)
- Lifeliners - KL200 Hood (x3)
- Majestic Fire Apparel - Hood & Gloves Set (x2)
- PGI - BarriAire Gold Hood (x2)
- Vanguard - MK-1 Gloves (x1)
- Vanguard - MK-1 Ultra Gloves (x1)
- Vanguard - SQ-1 Gloves (x1)

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Code.



Tim has done so much for his firefighter community through the years with his passion and talent for photography, but also his selfless attitude of always putting others first. Some of his credits include:

Northern Illinois Fire Ground Photography by Tim Olk 40 years
Photographer for Fire Engineering and FDIC for the past 20 years
Prior POC Firefighter
Northbrook FD
Northfield FD
Prospect Heights FD

Tim was recently diagnosed with bladder and prostate cancer. With the immediate future unknown and the timeline for his treatment up in the air, we'd like to help take the stress of bills piling up off his plate and allow him to focus on recovering. We would so appreciate your help in this endeavor!



Office Phone: 815-857-2000
Email: info@dingesfire.com

From the Chaplain's Rack

IFA Chaplain Josh Ehrler



This is a shortened version of my message during the IFA Memorial Service, held October 27, 2023.

Every firehouse has the spot. The one place where we know we will find someone. Where people gather and chat and eat and exist. Together. Where is your department's spot?

In my firehouse, it is an oversized picnic table. A couple weeks back, as I was eating my pizza on a tailboard after a call, I was strangely struck by the awareness that, before I signed on to this department, every single one of these men and women were strangers to me. Outside of this house, we would've been neighbors passing each other at the grocery store or strolling down the sidewalk. It's a small town, we might've known of each other. But I doubt we would have known each other. Like we do here.

We were once strangers, the way you and I are kind of like strangers in this space. And yet, when the tone drops, all these once strangers in my fire department respond the best we can. Within minutes, we're donning gear next to each other, we're making riding assignments, we're getting to work. Together.

Saint Paul writes in Romans, "Contribute to the needs of God's people, and welcome strangers into your home."

This statement reflects our two-fold nature as firefighters. That first part, contributing to the needs of God's people, is obvious enough. Our entire industry exists to serve neighbors. They call, we respond. We drill and learn and come to training opportunities like this one so we can offer our best to our people.

And when we show up, we are never alone. Someone from our department will be there. It is practically in our DNA and in the most basic mantra of our training. 2 in - 2 out. We cannot be firefighters by ourselves.

That second part, welcoming strangers, is also what we do. We welcome strangers into our house because we know they won't be strangers for long. Then we put on our department gear and come to trainings like this one and we are quickly reminded of just how much bigger our fire house actually is.

I know you and I don't know each other. But, there are no strangers here. That patch on our shoulder, that Maltese cross on our shirt, tells the person next to us the hours of drilling and studying we've done. It speaks of late night fires we worked before sleeplessly going straight to our jobs. They tell stories. Good calls. Bad ones. The ones we still carry. The ones we will carry for each other.

We are here for each other. Especially on these days, when we gather in memorial to hear the names of our blessed dead. We are here to remember them. Honor them. Remind their families that they do not stand alone.

Our fallen firefighters lead us forward by their examples of our two-fold nature. They have done holy work. They have earned their rest. Even if it came too soon and is impossible to understand. Sisters and brothers, we will stand as we hear these names because this is holy work we share. Work we can only do together. We care for each other and honor each other because there are no strangers in the fire service.

And we know, as we demonstrate today in this space, that when the final tone is made and the bell is rung at the sound of our name, we will not be alone. With God, we are never alone. We will be welcomed by God with love and mercy, embraced as God's own. As we reveal every time we show up for each other.

It is our privilege to serve. It is our gift from God that we have been welcomed to a table and into a home that transforms us from strangers into firefighters.

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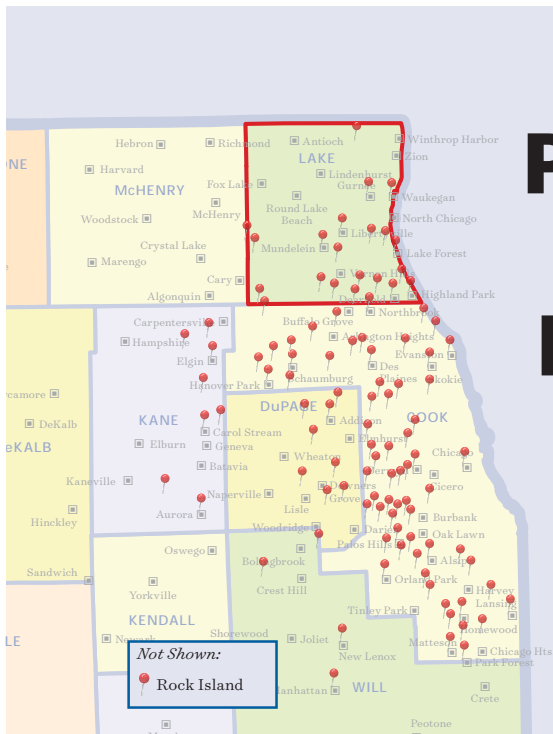
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We are excited to announce that Lake County adopted the 2018 International Residential Code, requiring fire sprinklers in all new homes in unincorporated Lake County. The county joins more than 110 fire-safe communities in Illinois that protect the lives of residents and firefighters with fire sprinklers in new homes.



Addison	Flossmoor	Lincolnshire-Riverwoods FPD	Plainfield FPD
Alsip	Forest Park	Lincolnwood	Pleasantview FPD
Aurora	Glen Ellyn	Lisle-Woodridge FPD	Prospect Heights
Barrington	Glencoe	Long Grove	River Forest
Barrington Countryside FPD	Glenside FPD	Long Grove FPD	Riverdale
Barrington FPD	Glenwood	Manhattan FPD	Riverside
Bedford Park	Green Oaks	Matteson	Riverwoods
Bellwood	Gurnee	Mount Prospect	Rock Island
Berkeley	Hanover Park	Mundelein	Rolling Meadows
Berwyn	Harwood Heights	New Lenox FPD	Roselle
Bloomington	Hazel Crest	Newport Township FPD	Roselle FPD
Bloomington FPD	Hickory Hills	Niles	Schaumburg
Blue Island	Highland Park	Norridge	Skokie
Bridgeview	Highwood	North Maine FPD	South Holland
Brookfield	Hodgkins	Northbrook	St. Charles
Burlington Community FPD	Hoffman Estates	Norwood Park FPD	Streamwood
Carol Stream	Homewood	Oak Brook	Sunnycrest FPD (Flossmoor)
Central Stickney FPD	Huntley FPD	Oak Forest	Vernon Hills
Chicago	Island Lake	Oak Park	Warren-Waukegan FPD
Chicago Ridge	Indian Creek (Countryside FPD)	Orland FPD	Wauconda
Clarendon Hills	Justice	Palatine	Wauconda FPD
Country Club Hills	La Grange Park	Palatine Rural FPD	West Dundee
Countryside	Lake Barrington	Palos FPD	Westchester
Countryside FPD	Lake Bluff	Palos Heights FPD	Western Springs
Crestwood	Lake County (unincorporated)	Palos Hills	Westmont
Deerfield	Lake Forest	Palos Park	Wheeling
Deerfield-Bannockburn FPD	Lake Zurich	Park Forest	Wilmette
Des Plaines	Lake Zurich Rural FPD	Park Ridge	Wood Dale
Elgin	Lansing		
Elk Grove Village	Lemont FPD		
Elmwood Park	Libertyville		
Evanston	Libertyville FPD		



Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board

Save Lives. Protect Property.

FireSprinklerAssoc.org
708-403-4468

FPD – Fire Protection District

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Hello Everyone!!

Hope everyone enjoyed our 2023 conference. If you attended this year's conference, you had the pleasure of seeing a special guest, Ember.

Ember is one of three plush dolls created by Lt. Tina Guiler. She works for the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue and has been since 1999. The other two plush dolls are Molly & Ash. Ember & Ash are fire reference names and Molly is a commemorative doll named after Molly Williams, who was the first female firefighter in the United States back in 1815. Each doll stands at 15½" tall.



These dolls were created to teach little girls that they can be firefighters too. The cost of the dolls is \$45.00 each. Every doll purchased, a percentage of the proceeds benefit the Triple F Foundation (www.TripleFFoundation.org) to help other firefighters battling cancer and fire-related job injuries.

Additional information about the Foundation and the plush dolls is on the next pages.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email (raarvia@yahoo.com)

Stay safe.

Rosemarie Arvia, Director



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.

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FEMALE FIREFIGHTER

PLUSH DOLLS

MEET EMBER, MOLLY, & ASH

- ★ ONLY AUTHENTIC line of Female Firefighter Plush Dolls in the WORLD with REMOVABLE GEAR
- ★ These UNIQUE DOLLS are new to the market with Thousands sold already
- ★ Doll gear guide and inspirational quotes by female firefighters
- ★ Inspire young girls with these dolls while helping real firefighters injured on the job!

Ask us- contact@TripleFRescue.com

www.FirefighterDolls.com



DESIGNED BY
LT. TINA GUILER
A FIREFIGHTER



AS SEEN ON NBC TV

A portion of the proceeds goes to the Triple F Foundation a 501(C)(3) non-profit CHARITY
that directly helps Firefighters Battling Cancer & on the Job Injuries.



FIERCE FEMALE FIREFIGHTERS™



INTRODUCING ASH, OUR NEWEST TRIPLE F DOLL!

Triple F Plush dolls were designed to inspire, motivate, and empower girls, while also recognizing the female firefighters worldwide.

Developed for ages 3+, the Triple F doll line now features three different characters: Ember, Molly and Ash. Ash is our newest member to our line of firefighter dolls. Ember and Ash are fire reference names and Molly is named after a historical figure, Molly Williams. Molly Williams, an African American, was the first known female firefighter in the United States, back in 1815. Lt. Guiler wanted to name this doll Molly to honor her dedication to the fire service. Each doll retails for \$45.00.

These are the **ONLY** dolls on the market that come dressed in authentic looking removable bunker jackets, a hood, a pair of gloves, an axe, and wearing a fire helmet. What also makes this line special is the one of a kind Triple F (female firefighter) logos on the helmet, bunker coat, and the shirt underneath her fire gear that matches each doll. Each doll has their own custom box with photos of female firefighters and includes a gear guide that explains how each piece of gear protects a firefighter inside a fire. There are also two inspirational quotes autographed by real female firefighters. They have working suspenders and pockets just like our real gear. Each doll features brushable hair that can be styled, the doll stands at 15 1/2" tall, and is all hand-crafted using only soft materials.

The entire Triple F Plush Doll line now officially available!

Triple F - Fierce Female Firefighters - is pleased to announce the official launch of the very first line of multiracial female firefighter plush dolls in the world. These are the only dolls developed by an actual firefighter and have removable gear.

Triple F is spearheading the launch of three plush firefighter dolls that will soon be featured on Amazon. "I set out to design a line of dolls that are truly authentic and serve as an inspiration to little girls and women all over the world. We believe, if they can see it, they can be it", Lt. Guiler states. The response to these dolls has truly been remarkable! The dolls have been purchased by the first responder community all over the world, the local Mayor, Commissioners, teachers, and the United States Fire Administrator, just to name a few of our customers.



Visit us at
FirefighterDolls.com



Natural Gas Detection From a Safe Distance



Before approaching a structure, first responders can quickly scan common venting points including most windows, from up to 100' away to determine if there's natural gas present. This scan gives you critical time to make informed decisions to establish control of the gas and ignition sources if there's a detection.

Since 1933, Heath has been the industry leader for natural gas leak detection instrumentation and monitoring devices to the utility industry. Our RMLD technology has been trusted worldwide since 2005, with thousands of legacy units sold.



Your Safety... Our Commitment

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**BUILT FOR TOUGHNESS to
withstand firefighting
conditions without
shrinking**

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Thermal Imager can read
names for accountability**

**EASILY DECONTAMINATED
after a fire**

Built out of necessity.

**We also carry a full line of
desk and wall display
plaques, awards, and
helmet shield keychains!**



**Office Email: info@dingesfire.com
Office Phone: 815-857-2000**

Half the year is
here, is your testing
program in
progress?



2023 is the year
your fire sprinkler
systems are inspected
the right way!

Begin the third quarter of 2023
by ensuring fire code and ISO compliance and
sending notices to building owners as to what is
required. A 3rd party inspection compliance
management company like Brycer and IROL
can help you carry out your fire sprinkler
testing program at no cost to the fire
department.



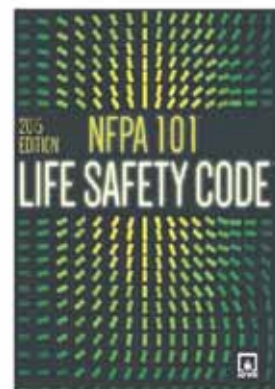
Regular Fire Sprinkler Testing is Required by the International Fire Code

Chapter 9, Fire Protection Systems of the 2018 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 9.11.1 (2015 edition).

All automatic fire sprinkler systems, stand-pipe systems and fire pumps must be inspected and maintained in accordance with NFPA 25.

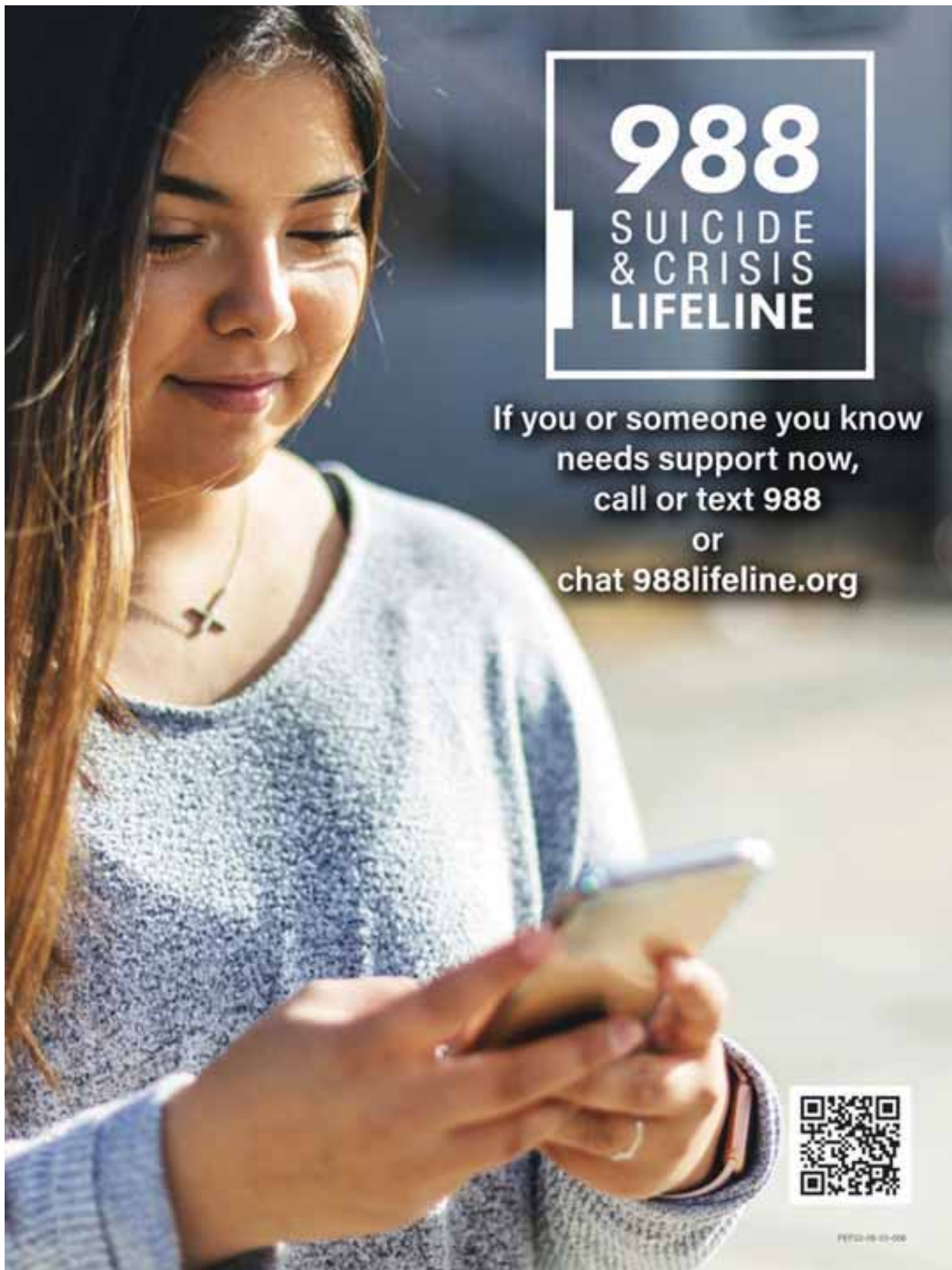
Help educate the contractors working in your town or district by giving them a copy of the state contractors licensing act.



For more information:




Is your fire sprinkler testing program for your commercial and residential occupancies in progress? Any company must be licensed by the State Fire Marshal and anyone testing a fire sprinkler system, fire pump, or standpipe must have (1) satisfactorily completed a certified sprinkler fitter apprenticeship program approved by the U.S. Department of Labor, or (2) have current ASSE 15010 certification in inspection, testing, and maintenance for water-based fire protection systems by ASSE, or (3) current NICET III certification or equivalent nationally recognized program. Are you checking these items before work begins? Stop any job violating this state law and/or call the state fire marshal.



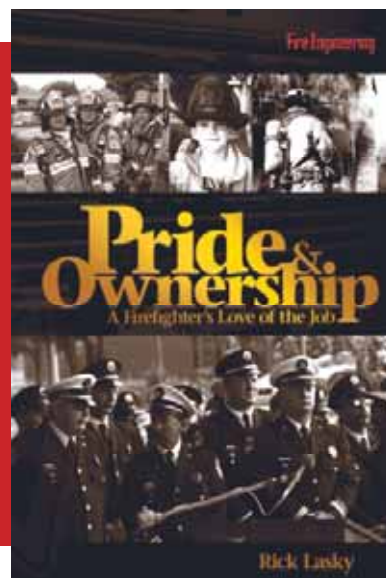
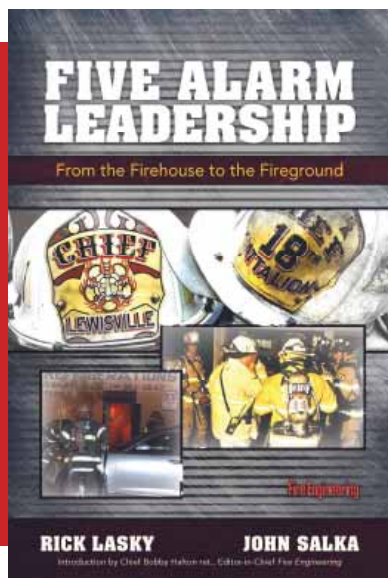
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SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

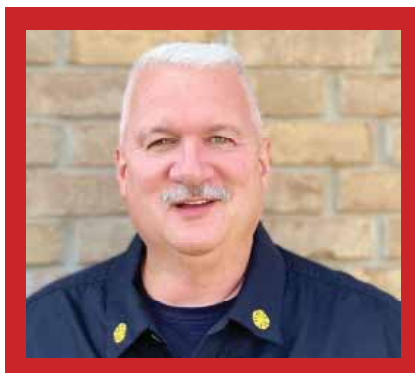
If you or someone you know
needs support now,
call or text 988
or
chat 988lifeline.org



PEP20-08-03-006



Chief Rick Lasky (ret.) a 40-plus year veteran of the fire service, served as chief of the Lewisville (TX) Fire Department for 12 years, prior to that as Fire Chief in Coeur d'Alene Idaho. Rick followed in his father's footsteps beginning his career as a firefighter in the suburbs on the southwest side of Chicago and while in Illinois received the 1996 International Society of Fire Service Instructors "Innovator of the Year" award for his part in developing the "Saving Our Own" program. He served as the co-lead instructor for the H.O.T. Firefighter Survival program at FDIC for over 10 years, is a long-standing editorial advisory board member for Fire Engineering Magazine and also serves on the FDIC advisory board. Rick is the author of the best-selling books "Pride & Ownership: A Firefighter's Love of the Job" and "Five Alarm Leadership: From the Firehouse to the Fireground" published by Fire Engineering Books and is the co-host for the podcast "The Command Post" heard on FireEngineering.com as well as the podcast "Old School." Rick has served as both a career and volunteer firefighter and in 2017 was the



recipient of the Tom Brennan Lifetime Achievement Award.

**CHIEF
RICK
LASKY**

Did you ever wonder what it takes to be THAT fire department? The fire department that others wish they worked for? The fire department that gets it right? With a foundation built upon core values, passion, strong leadership and a love for the job, the only result can be greatness. This program looks at what's needed to achieve this and what it takes to stay on top.

WHAT MAKE A GREAT FIRE DEPARTMENT?

Program with Chief Rick Lasky

Course Location:
Amboy Fire Station
25 N. East Ave
Amboy, IL 61310

Date: December 9, 2023
Time: 8a-5p

Cost: \$100 per Student
Register 5, Get 1 Free

To Register, Email:
info@dingesfire.com



STOP COMPLAINING & START THINKING

with Chief Craig A. Haigh



Date: December 13, 2023

Time: 6- 10 pm

Cost: \$50

Contact Chief Bryant to register.

815-994-6184

jeffbryant@amboyfire.com



 **25 N E Ave, Amboy, IL 61310**



The Dynamic Fire Chief: Principles for Organizational Management (2022) will be available for sale and autograph.

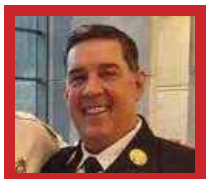


The Functional Fire Company series of programs is based on the book *The Functional Fire Company: Positioning Small Groups for Success and Survival* published by Fire Engineering Books and Videos. The book is the product of thirty-five years of exposure to the fire service and nine years of subject specific research and analysis.

From the First Whip to the Chief of Department, each and every member of the organization contributes to the success of the organization. The focus of The Functional Fire Company is on creating an environment that allows firefighters to be firefighters and positioning the fire company mentally and physically for success and survival in the firehouse and on the fireground.

8-Hour Program: The Functional Fire Company

- Functional v. dysfunctional
- Defining success
- Preparedness and positioning for success and survival
- Purpose and mission
- Fire first philosophy
- Why performance standards are essential
- Company level training tips
- Suburban fire operation considerations
- The Six Cs of Functional Success
- 16 Commitments of the functional fire company
- Improvement and continual learning
- Modifying and managing the culture
- Functional Leadership
- Training basics and essentials
- Coaching and mentoring
- Safety v. managing risks



**CHIEF
SCOTT
THOMPSON**

Chief Scott Thompson joined the volunteer fire service in 1981. He began his paid career in Plano, Texas in 1986. Over the course of his career, he has worked with several progressive fire service organizations. Chief Thompson is passionate about suburban fire operations and positioning firefighters and fire companies for success and survival. He has a Bachelors of Science in Emergency Administration and Disaster Planning and is a certified public manager (CPM). Thompson has been a hands-on, workshop, and classroom presenter at the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) since 2002. In addition to writing *The Functional Fire Company: Positioning Small Groups for Success and Survival*, he has written numerous published articles. Thompson is currently the fire chief in The Colony, Texas Fire Department and he owns and operates Functional Fire Company LLC and fireserviceleadership.com. Thompson has two sons in the fire service.

THE FUNCTIONAL FIRE COMPANY

Program with Chief Scott Thompson

Course Location:
Amboy Fire Station
25 N. East Ave
Amboy, IL 61310

Date: December 10, 2023
Time: 8a-5p

Cost: \$100 per Student
Register 5, Get 1 Free

To Register, Email:
info@dingesfire.com





Travis Proudly displays 9 stars on his right arm to honor his 9 Brothers who were killed in the line of duty during a warehouse fire in Charleston, South Carolina on June 18, 2007. Injured in this same fire and plagued with guilt, Travis vowed to move forward and live a purposeful life.



POST TRAUMATIC PURPOSE TOUR

WITH TRAVIS HOWZE

Authentically raw and uncensored, Post Traumatic Purpose gives a realistic view of the mental health epidemic that plagues our first responders and their families. Travis' transparent approach builds a relatability that not only connects with the individual responder but their families; including spouses who are always encouraged to attend in hopes of promoting career and family longevity.

His motivational message focuses on mental health; targeting in on signs and symptoms affected personnel may be displaying through various behavioral patterns and changes, ways of coping with trauma as it applies to the individual, the family and team. Travis provides a holistic talk by covering various available resources, the culture and why many never seek help. He is the author of the Best Selling book and top ranked Podcast both titled, "Create Your Own Light".

For over a decade, Travis has had the pleasure of speaking and teaching to departments nationwide and countless emergency services and mental health conferences, including law enforcement, firefighters, clinicians, the FBI, SWAT teams, private mental health organizations, and the top nationally ranked university student veterans' program.

Travis Howze is an international touring speaker, author, and motivational wellness educator who spent 14 years in the military and emergency services as a U.S. Marine, Police Officer, and Firefighter.

From taking human life to being assigned to the body recovery team of 9 brother firefighters, which included one of his best friends, Travis was plagued with extreme Post Traumatic Stress dating back to early childhood. With little to no resources available during his recovery, he decided to become a resource by developing "Post Traumatic Purpose- an empowering, educational course and keynote presentation on Leadership, Mental Wellness, and Resiliency."

**APRIL 6, 2024
8AM TO 4PM
AMBOY, IL
\$100 PER PERSON**

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REGISTER**



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