



# OHIO FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION



**JULY 12-16, 2018  
COLUMBUS HILTON  
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## **Course Description and Presenters Guide**

**A guide to the education sessions and those who are presenting at the OFCA Conference. This year's theme is *Health, Wellness & Education: Your Future Starts Today!***

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# OHIO FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION

## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PRESENTERS GUIDE

### **NOTE:**

- **ALL CLASSES QUALIFY FOR HOURS TOWARDS EITHER THE OHIO FIRE CHIEF (OFC) OR OHIO FIRE OFFICER (OFO) CREDENTIALING OR RE-CREDENTIALING PROGRAM.**
- **ALL WORKSHOPS OFFERING CEU(S) MUST BE ACCEPTED AND APPROVED BY YOUR CHIEF.**
- **\* DENOTES SESSIONS THAT QUALIFY FOR OHIO EMS CEU(S) THROUGH FARMERSVILLE FIRE & EMS SITE #1028.**

### **2015 IFC High – Piled Combustible Storage**

The 2015 IFC High-piled Combustible Storage seminar provides a basic understanding of the hazards associated with high-piled combustible storage and introduces the participants to the provisions in Chapter 32 of the 2015 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC). This seminar places special emphasis on the classification of commodities and understanding the design criteria in NFPA 13 for storage. Course objectives include: Apply the requirements of Chapter 32 for high-piled combustible storage; Identify the various storage methods for high-piled combustible storage; Describe how each storage method contributes to fire behavior; Explain the basic requirements of NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, 2010 edition, for storage occupancies; Describe the scope and application of Chapter 32 of the IFC; Explain the commodity classification system based on the criteria in Section 3203 of the IFC.

**Presenter:** Robert J. Schultz, P.E., P.S., CBO, Served as an Assistant Architect Administrator at the Ohio Board of Building Standards

**Date and Time:** Friday, July 13, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM; 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Location:** Juniper B & C

### **Arco Recycling Fire East Cleveland, Ohio**

Over a five-day period in October 2017, the East Cleveland Fire Department, with the help of numerous mutual aid agencies conducted fire suppression operations at Arco Recycling. Construction and demolition debris had been dumped there and covered over 9 acres and was piled over five-stories high. Pockets within the pile had caught fire resulting in fire suppression efforts, in addition to involvement from County, State, and Federal resources. The workshop will cover lessons learned from several Northeast Chiefs who operated at the incident. An overview of the incident, including stakeholder concerns, will be offered along with key takeaways attendees can use if an EOC activation and expansion of the incident command system is required in their area.

**Presenter:** Mike Celiga, Fire Chief, East Cleveland; Brandy Carney, Director of Public Safety & Justice

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

**Location:** Regent 3

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### **Blast Stages and Injuries**

This presentation is on IED's related to some of the commercial and homemade explosives used today. Since fire/medic companies are normally one of the first to respond to explosions, we need to be familiar with the various typologies and associated injuries. We enter many structures on a daily basis and are subjected to many dangers. We are also in the unique position to assist Law Enforcement when we observe any bomb-making components. We cannot report on components which we do not know may be used in IED construction unless we foster that knowledge base. Firefighters and medics alike have been known to identify various components of bombs which have thwarted terrorist efforts. Responding to lives in danger is our forte; however, helping to prevent catastrophic events is also a duty of ours. Discussed will be the blast stages and the associated injuries. Treating these injuries can be complex and difficult. The treatment focus will be on explaining the Lethal Triad of Trauma and how to avoid this deadly trap.

**Presenter:** Jared Alden, Lieutenant, Akron Fire Department

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

**Location:** Magnolia Room

### **Cardiovascular & Chemical Exposure Risks in Modern Firefighting**

The proposed class will provide an overview of recent research conducted at Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as it pertains to fire behavior, ventilation and building construction. The Modern Fire Environment has changed from the environment encountered by the fire service just twenty years ago. The fuel package in today's residential occupancy has experienced a wide spread inclusion of synthetic products that produce a very different burning characteristic than natural materials. This fuel package has created a fire scenario that produces an increased heat release rate producing an increased risk to fire fighters. This fire environment has also created a more dramatic impact on the structural elements of today's structures. We will also examine the changes in today's construction practices and how today's fires will impact the structural integrity of the fire fighter's work environment. This presentation will also cover the recent tests conducted at the Illinois Fire Service Institute, who in collaboration with UL FSRI, NIOSH and Skidmore College, studied the cardiovascular impact of various firefighting assignments and the exposure to the carcinogenic elements. Dr. Kenny Fent, of NIOSH, will review exposure and contamination findings of the study. Dr. Fent will review the elements measured within the atmosphere, the fire fighter's PPE and the operating fire fighter. During the class we will cover the various aspects of fire behavior, building construction and the impact of ventilation on fire behavior. We will also bring it together and discuss how this new understanding of the modern fire environment impacts fire fighter operations. As situations develop in complicity it is important to remember the basics. The research is not indicating everything the fire service has done is wrong, in fact it is driving us back to our basics to our foundation. To operate effectively and safely on the fireground, fire fighters and fire officers must remember the basics, or ABC's, of fire fighter and they are the Three C's, Communication, Coordination and Control. If we can follow these basic tenants we can improve fire fighter safety on the fireground.

**Presenter:** Sean DeCrane, Battalion Chief, Cleveland Division of Fire; Dr. Kenneth Fent, Research Industrial Hygienist, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Gavin Horn, Director of Research, Illinois Fire Service, Institute at the University of Illinois

**Date and Time:** Sunday, July 15, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

**Location:** Juniper B&C

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**Drawing a Line in the Sand on Home Fire Fatalities**

The presentation examines the home fire fatalities issue nationally and in Ohio and focuses on the problem of non-working smoke alarms. We look at why alarms fail, what can be done to increase the number of working alarms, where they should be installed and the latest alarm technologies, including 10-year sealed batteries and wireless interconnected alarms. This presentation moves fast and includes several videos.

**Presenter:** Neal Zipser, Community Affairs Manager, Kiddie

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

**Location:** Regent 1

**Dr. John Maxwell's 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership**

This intensive 3-day program will take participants through the 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership as they apply to today's fire service. The program will challenge participants to look closely at themselves and identify ways to become a more influential leader in their organizations. It is intended for current officers and senior firefighters preparing to assume leadership roles in their department. The Maxwell Program requires a significant commitment as it involves multiple application assignments to be completed post class. You will be assigned a program mentor who will help you develop all 21 skills that Dr. Maxwell has identified as key leadership traits.

**Presenter:** Chief George Brown, OFE; Retired Chief Jim Steele, OFE; Retired Chief R. Mike Warner, OFE; Chief John Hickey, OFE, OFC; Chief Vince Harris, OFE

**Date and Time:** Friday, July 13-15, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Location:** Juniper A

**Expect the Unexpected During a Natural Gas Emergency**

Preparedness and quick action during a natural gas emergency can save lives and help minimize property damage. This session will discuss the number one cause of natural gas emergencies, natural gas properties, the roles and responsibilities of fire departments and the utility during an emergency, and valve and cross bore do's and don'ts. Steve Sylvester will lead participants in simulated emergency response drills, share real-life emergency scenarios and detail fire schools and other emergency response activities offered at Columbia Gas of Ohio's state-of-the-art Training Center. Session attendees will also learn how their departments can become natural gas safety advocates within their communities.

**Presenter:** Steve Sylvester, Vice President & General Manager of Field Operations, Columbia Gas of Ohio

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 3:45 PM – 5:15 PM

**Location:** Westerville Boardroom

**Firefighter Safety: Mistakes & Best Practices**

This program looks at a summary of 10 common mistakes and 10 best practices discovered from the presenter's extensive evaluation of more than 500 near-miss reports and line-of-duty casualty investigations. Improve your understanding of what's killing firefighters at incident scenes and how to improve fireground safety. During this fast-paced program we will look at the role staffing, communications, command activities, size-up, strategy, standardized procedures, training, near-miss events and post incident evaluations play in best practices and common mistakes.

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**Presenter:** Dr. Richard B. Gasaway, Gasaway Consulting Group, LLC

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Location:** Regent 1

### **Fireground Responsibility**

In this program Chief Salka takes a critical look at the line-of-duty death of a firefighter and the many contributing factors that played a role in the event. Using the report issued by NIOSH after their investigation, each of the factors, events and decisions related to this fire are examined to discover if anything could have been done differently with more positive results. Issues such as SCBA usage, accountability tactics, risk vs reward decision making, survival skills and communications are all discussed and debated to uncover the real cause of the LODD and the possible actions and decisions that can be made in the future to prevent another similar tragedy. This program contains lessons and skills that apply to all ranks and levels including firefighters, company officers and chiefs.

**Presenter:** John J. Salka, Jr. Battalion Chief (ret.), FDNY/Fire Command Training

**Date and Time:** Thursday, July 12, 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

**Location:** Regent 1

### **Fire Safety During Construction and Renovation**

Throughout the nation, structure fires occurring in buildings under construction, renovation, or demolition have caused over 300 million dollars in direct property damage, and countless man hours lost. During this presentation we will look at the top contributing factors to ignition, the precautions to take so a fire will not occur, the owner's responsibility for fire protection, and the fire departments role during this process.

**Presenter:** Kenneth Klouda, Chief, Fire Prevention Bureau, Division of State Fire Marshal

**Date and Time:** Friday, July 13, 4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

**Location:** Juniper B & C

### **Fire Station Construction What Does it Take to Complete the Project**

Moderated by Chief John Soisson, the architects that are present at Conference will hold a panel discussion on how to build a fire station.

**Presenter:** Architects of the Conference; Chief John Soisson, Moderator

**Date and Time:** Friday, July 13, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

**Location:** Magnolia Room

### **Five Alarm Leadership**

Five Alarm Leadership is a dynamic program that is designed to energize and motivate the people in your department to perform and excel in everything they do. This program outlines many of the common situations that fire departments and fire companies find themselves in and presents suggestions and solutions to those situations. Chief Salka, a 33 plus year veteran of the FDNY has experienced many of the challenges and hurdles that your fire department is facing. He has learned through his experience as a lieutenant, captain and chief how to treat people, how to motivate them and even how to discipline them so that they want to come back for more. Issues such as integrity, inspiration, interest, Innovation, insight and initiative are all discussed and applied to life in the firehouse and on the fireground. Join Chief Salka as he guides you through your most difficult but vital role as a leader in the fire service.

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**Presenter:** John J. Salka, Jr. Battalion Chief (ret.), FDNY/Fire Command Training

**Date and Time:** Thursday, July 12, 8:30 AM – 11:45 AM

**Location:** Regent 1

**Flawed Situational Awareness: The Stealth Killer of First Responders**

Situational awareness is one of the leading contributing factors for near-miss and line-of-duty deaths among first responders operating at emergency scenes. While organizations have worked to improve policies and procedures, equipment and training, the number of responder casualties has remained virtually unchanged. If we are going to reduce responder casualty incidents, we must first improve our ability to develop and maintain situational awareness under stress. This program provides the attendee with a thorough understanding of situational awareness - what it is, how challenging it can be to develop and how easy it can erode.

**Presenter:** Dr. Richard B. Gasaway, Gasaway Consulting Group, LLC

**Date and Time:** Sunday, July 15, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Location:** Regent 1

**Introduction to Supporting the Organization: A Leaders Role**

Supporting the Organization: A Leaders Role is designed for those who want to brush up on modern leadership issues and for those preparing to take a leadership role. The course exposes participants to some of the most frequent leadership topics faced by members within the fire service and public safety or emergency management organizations. This presentation includes a workbook, group discussion, and sharing of experiences through structured interaction. All issues are supported by humorous video examples that drive home points. Some concepts are derived from: 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, Crucial Conversations, Character First, Getting to Yes, The Myth of Excellence, Sun Tzu the Art of War, and Jesus-CEO.

**Presenter:** Wayne Senter, Executive Director, Washington State Fire Chiefs

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 3:45 PM – 5:15 PM; Sunday, July 15, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

**Location:** Regent 1 (Saturday); Regent 3 (Sunday)

**ISO and Your Fire Department – Positive Community Impacts**

This class will give insight into how the ISO Public Protection Classification system works and how it can have a positive impact on the communities your fire department serves. Emphasis is placed on fire department public fire suppression efforts and how this relates to community fire insurance ratings. Participants will learn how building community support for enhanced public fire suppression capabilities can produce positive results in the life and property saving services being provided, along with improving the insurance rating.

**Presenter:** Joe Fratantaro – Manager, Community Hazard Mitigation Services and Tom Rampe, Senior Field Representative

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

**Location:** Worthington Room

**NFIRS in Five Easy Steps**

There are five essential questions to ask yourself when filling out the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) report. This session will cover what those questions are, the importance of quality



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incident coding, and will break down the NFIRS codes for better understanding. The session will provide clarification on common errors in reporting and commonly miscoded incidents, along with a walkthrough and digital download of the NFIRS Complete Reference Guide to quickly code incidents. There will be examples provided that allows the attendees to try their hand at coding an incident.

**Presenter:** Anita Metheny, Assistant Chief, Fire Prevention Bureau, Division of State Fire Marshal

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM; 3:45 PM – 5:15 PM

**Location:** Magnolia Room (AM); Worthington Boardroom (PM)

### **Ohio Assist Program**

Critical and traumatic incidents can have varied and long-reaching impacts on a public safety agency, at all levels. Some could be dealing with the incident itself, injury or worse to a friend and or co-worker but chief executives have additional issues, not shared by others within the department. In addition to the effects felt by other members of the agency, chief executives often have the added responsibilities of the media, staffing coverage, and benefits for the employee or their family, addressing operational and administrative questions regarding the incident, response to the incident and any subsequent fallout. Chief executives also have to address questions and concerns from governmental agencies tasked with overseeing public safety in their jurisdiction. Sometimes these folks may be unknowledgeable about the work we do, the dangers we face and the toll it takes on our personnel. Many command level officers feel they must maintain a visual image for their agency as a whole and not allow themselves the chance to acknowledge their own reactions to these incidents. Given the paramilitary culture of public safety, sergeants don't ask chiefs if they are OK. Just not something we have done in the past. These incidents could include; the death or serious injury of any member of the agency, (either on or off duty), serious illness, use of deadly force by or against an officer, mass casualty, death involving children or older folks, or anything that overwhelms their personnel's ability to cope. *After the Call* was created to provide chief executives with some ideas, concepts and techniques they might use to help themselves during a critical or traumatic incident. We also want to let these officers know that, just like the rest of their agency, they are having a normal reaction to an abnormal circumstance. It's not only ok to ask for assistance, it will help ensure that they are able to provide the guidance and oversight to help their agency and it's personnel work through the aftermath to be stronger than before the incident happened.

**Presenter:** Lieutenant Steven M. Click; Ohio ASSIST Program; Ohio State Highway Patrol

**Date and Time:** Sunday, July 15, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

**Location:** Westerville Boardroom

### **Ohio's Flooded Roadway Law: Testing the Waters**

Ohio's Flooded Roadway Law, named in honor of Fallen Wellington Fire District Diver Allan Anderson Jr. was signed into law in December of 2014. To date, very little seems to be known about the law, which poses stiffer penalties for drivers who ignore Road Closed signs and travel into high water. This informational class will cover the events leading to a LODD prompting the introduction of Senate Bill 106, an explanation of ORC 4511.714, the required signage, as well as the actions taken to make an entire County aware of the law and how to enforce it.

**Presenter:** Mike Wetherbee, Chief, Wellington Fire District

**Date and Time:** Friday, July 13, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM; Sunday, July 15, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

**Location:** Lilac Room

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**On-Scene Grief Training for Battalion Chiefs and Company Officers**

The Ohio Federation of Fire Chaplains (OFFC) supports the ministries of volunteer and paid Fire Department and EMS Chaplains, and assists fire service agencies in developing their chaplaincy programs. The OFFC is affiliated with and supports the Federation of Fire Chaplains (FFC) on the national level, providing automatic membership and networking with the addition of a statewide certification and accountability system for fire & EMS chaplains. The OFFC offers programs that provide its members with educational opportunities in training conferences and materials. The OFFC provides a standard of care and training for Chaplains.

**Presenters:** Reverend Kevin M. Kellogg, Chaplain 591, Violet Township Fire Department; Dr. Paul Zeeb, MD, FACEP, Mount Carmel East/West/Grove City Hospitals and Diley Ridge Medical Center; Battalion Chief William D. McCullough, Jefferson Township Fire Department; Reverend Gunnar Cerda, OhioHealth Grant Medical Center, Freestanding Emergency Departments, and Ambulatory Services; Megan Kale-Cheever, LSW, CT, GC-C, Mount Carmel Hospice and Palliative Care

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

**Location:** Lilac Room

**Preparing for Your Climb Down the Ladder of Success**

The first baby boomers turned 65 in 2011 and there are an estimated 75 million of them, including first responders who are fast approaching an age where voluntary or mandatory retirement looms. It is surprising – if not sad- that so many of our brothers and sisters spend a third or more of their adult life so intently focused on serving others that they have not given much thought or concern to what they'll do if/when they are no longer a public servant. While it may appear to be logical for those in their 40's and 50's to start thinking about life after public service, this program will share why so many are not adequately prepared physically, emotionally, functionally, or financially for the "afterlife" and it can cause some really big problems. And these problems can become even more challenging if the transition is sudden or unexpected (e.g., injury, illness, termination). This program is designed to help you depart with a plan, whether you're retiring, disabled, downsized, or terminated.

**Presenter:** Dr. Richard B. Gasaway, Gasaway Consulting Group, LLC

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

**Location:** Regent 2 & 3

**Presentation on How FDNY Recovered from 9-11**

9-11 changed the way we lived and will be a day forever remembered in the fire service industry – and especially for the FDNY. Sal Cassano will discuss the impact of 9-11 on the department he oversaw, what lessons were learned, and most importantly, how the department and city moved on. While there was a focus to rebuild, the FDNY made sure that it increased interaction with the public and placed a renewed emphasis on fire prevention and education.

**Presenter:** Sal Cassano, former FDNY Commissioner

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

**Location:** Regent 1



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**Safety, Health and Wellness Open Discussion**

**Part I** - Update SB 27 - Reviews details of bill; Discuss 742.38 – Pension Fund and 4123.57 – BWC; discuss Inclusion and exclusion criteria; discuss the IARC – International Agency for Research on Cancer; Groups 1a, 2a, (2b dropped from law); Discuss claim and disability processes; leave / time off; cancer prevention – best practices. **Part II** - Behavioral Health; PTSD Bill; Discuss causes occupational internal / external; review symptoms; support systems / resources; use of EAP; check list; administrative policies; leave / time off / best practices.

**Presenter:** Karen D. Turano, Esq., Associate, Connor, Evans & Hafenstein LLP

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 3:45 PM – 5:15 PM

**Location:** Juniper B & C

**Single Engine Residential Fires (SERF): The Critical First 10 Minutes**

The first 10 minutes on the fireground is what determines the eventual outcome. How you perform during The Critical 10 minutes is directly related to prior training and preparation. This training usually focuses independently on hose selection, search, forcible entry, ground ladders and ventilation. Incident Command training rarely leaves the training room. We often neglect to actually combine all of those pieces together, and very rarely do these global training sessions occur during realistic live-fire training. This class has been very successful at BGSU Fall Fire School for the past 7 years with very positive student feedback. This classroom session will introduce you to the SERF program and challenge you to take a good look at how you operate on the fireground. It will cover fire behavior, how to apply UL/NIST information to the street, leadership on the fireground, company level training, size-up, radio traffic, overhaul, and will review live-fire evolutions conducted in past SERF classes.

**Presenter:** Kevin McFarland, Lieutenant, Violet Township

**Date and Time:** Friday, July 13, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM; Sunday, July 15, 3:15 PM – 4:45 PM

**Location:** Regent 1 (Friday); Magnolia Room (Sunday)

**So You Want to be a Fire Chief?**

This two hour presentation is packed full of valuable information to help fire officers decide whether or not they want to become a Fire Chief. Chief Leininger is a dynamic speaker. He will facilitate an open discussion about the pros and cons of being a Fire Chief. The attendee will learn about the things that are required knowledge to be an effective and efficient Fire Chief in today's environment and into the future.

**Presenter:** Robert Leininger, Chief, Springfield Township Fire Department

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 3:45 PM – 5:30 PM; Sunday, July 15, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Location:** Regent 3 (Saturday); Magnolia Room (Sunday)

**Tactical EMS**

Some departments have SWAT medics but others do not. Tactical medicine is growing due to the number of shootings which have occurred frequently in the U.S. Police entry teams (Contact Teams) have and are being developed as I write this email to neutralize the shooter. Rescue Task Force (RTF) teams are also used where two medics enter a warm zone to treat & triage the wounded with a few PD officers used as security. This presentation will give a history of TEMS and discuss the preventable injuries associated with the tactical setting. Also discussed is how a SWAT run is activated, implemented, briefed, operated, concluded, and debriefed. We will focus largely on the role of the medic, not solely in regard to trauma, but also related to the medical aspect of keeping the operators

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functioning in austere environments. A Medical Threat Assessment (MTA) must be formulated by researching, analyzing, and implementing a medical plan. The best medicine in the tactical setting is great preparation but great medicine at the wrong time can equal terrible tactics and a failed mission. Our mission in Akron is to catch the bad guy and go home to our families. Tactical medicine is a key component to the safety of all involved when a planned raid is enacted or when a Signal 100 occurs.

**Presenter:** Jared Alden, Lieutenant, Akron Fire Department

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 3:45 PM – 5:15 PM

**Location:** Magnolia Room

**The 4 R's of Responding to Oilfield Emergencies (Recognition, Roles, Responsibilities, and Resources)**

This presentation will provide information and an overview of OOGEEP's *Responding to Oilfield Emergencies* Fire Training that is provided "free of charge" to Ohio's fire service. That training helps ensure that firefighters are situationally aware and understand the **Recognition** of both emergent and non-emergent circumstances specific to natural gas and crude oil exploration and production in Ohio. Other important topics include establishing a unified incident command structure and the **Roles** and **Responsibilities** of all parties involved in a potential incident. A practical exercise will be conducted to allow participants an opportunity to use numerous **Resources** for chemical identification used in the industry and fire service.

**Presenter:** Charlie Dixon, OOGEEP Safety and Workforce Director; Chief Brent Gates, New Concord Fire Department

**Date and Time:** Saturday, July 14, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

**Location:** Juniper B & C

**Understanding ISO's Public Protection Classifications**

This class provides an overview of how the ISO Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) is used to classify your community's public fire protection delivery system. From Apparatus to Community Risk Reduction programs, participants will learn the many fire protection features included in the community grading process. Participants will discuss the elements used to classify a jurisdiction's fire defense system. Learn about information available to Fire Chiefs that ISO uses in the evaluation, and where to go in ISO for help. Information provided can be used to improve your community's ISO Public Protection Classification. There will be time reserved for questions and answers.

**Presenter:** Joe Fratantaro – Manager, Community Hazard Mitigation Services, Insurance Services Office, Inc. and Tom Rampe, Christian Ball, and Andy Welsh, Field Staff, Insurance Services Office, Inc.

**Date and Time:** Thursday, July 12, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**Location:** Lilac Room

**Volunteer Recruitment Best Practices**

After saving lives and property, one of the most difficult challenges volunteer fire departments face is recruiting and retaining quality members. Time demands, training requirements, increasing call volumes, leadership problems, legal mandates, internal conflict, time management, rewards and recognition, mobile workforce, cost of housing, aging communities...the list goes on and on. This two-part program focuses on best practices to help you attract and retain quality members. We will look at: Leadership styles, mission, vision, core values, officer selection criteria, communications, teamwork,

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conflict resolution, recruitment practices and retention strategies. The presenter has worked with volunteer firefighters for 30+ years. He is co-author of The Leadership Guide to Volunteer Fire (Jones & Bartlett Publishing), and the author of On Fire About Leadership (self-published).

**Presenter:** Dr. Richard B. Gasaway, Gasaway Consulting Group, LLC

**Date and Time:** Sunday, July 15, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM; 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM

**Location:** Regent 1

**What's Your Comfort Level**

Firefighter health and wellness has long been a topic of discussion for many within our ranks. Yet, for far too many others, firefighter health and wellness is either assumed or “purposely” dismissed. Today, with the rise of occupational exposures, PTSD, firefighter suicides, and the ever-present cardiovascular risks within the fire service, it's time we have the uncomfortable conversations. This high impact, high-energy address will explore the causes of our discomforts, shed new light on the opportunities available and the responsibilities we all bear in making health and wellness of our members and ourselves priority one. What's your comfort level, and just how uncomfortable are you willing to be?

**Presenter:** Timothy E. Sendelbach, Editor-in-Chief, Firehouse Magazine/Firehouse.com

**Date and Time:** Monday, July 16, 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM

**Location:** Regent 2 & 3

**When Suicide Hits Home: Unexpected Challenges Following an Unexpected & Tragic Event**

While we have come a long way in raising awareness about the prevalence of suicide in the fire service, we still don't expect it to hit close to home. This session will look at the signs and red flags leading up to the event, the short and long-term effects on department operations and culture, the lingering conflicts and friction among department members, and the resulting initiatives and policies following the loss of one of our own.

**Presenter:** Chief Jerry Winkler (Ret.), EFO, CFO, OFC and Captain Tammy Johnson, Seville-Guilford Fire & EMS Department

**Date and Time:** Sunday, July 15, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM; 3:15 PM – 4:45 PM

**Location:** Magnolia Room (AM); Lilac Room (PM)

**Location:** Juniper B & C

## FEATURED PRESENTERS



**Alden, Jarred** - Jarred Alden is a graduate of Kenton Ridge H.S. (1993); Urbana University (1997) B.A. degree; and Wright State University (2000) M.A. degree. His focus in college was psychology, sociology, law and applied behavioral sciences. He have worked for The Akron Fire Department for 14 1/2 years and 2 years of this time as a Lieutenant. Alden has also served as a diver for the water rescue team and he currently functions as a tactical medic for The Akron Police Department's SWAT team. Alden is currently stationed at station #14A in Goodyear Heights in Akron. Before joining AFD, Alden worked for Infocision Management Corporation as a Program Supervisor and the University of Akron as a sociology instructor. He instructed on topics such as research methods, basic statistics, culture, social structure/processes, social networks, socialization, deviance, crime, politics & economy, terrorism, education, gender, race and collective behaviors.



**Carney, Brandy** - Brandy Carney is the Director of Public Safety & Justice Services (PSJS) for Cuyahoga County, in Cleveland Ohio. PSJS is made up of seven divisions which include the County 911 Dispatch Center (CECOMS), Office of Emergency Management, Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS), Grants and Fiscal, Witness Victim Service Center, Administration/ Project Management and the Northeast Ohio Regional Fusion Center (NEORFC). She manages the department's day-to-day operations, including a budget of over thirty-five (35) million dollars made up of grants, general fund and other revenue sources, and works closely with all divisions to make sure they are functioning at the highest level possible and supporting the mission of the County Executive and County Council. PSJS supports needs of public safety and criminal justice organizations throughout the County, providing a myriad of services including fiscal, grant administration, policy and project management, to over 60 law enforcement agencies and 52 fire departments within the 59 communities in Cuyahoga County.



**Cassano, Sal** – Salvatore J. Cassano served as the 32<sup>nd</sup> Fire Commissioner in the 151-year history of the New York City Fire Department (FDNY), leading the United States' largest fire department with more than 16,000 fire, EMS and civilian members, and an annual budget of \$1.6 billion. Commissioner Cassano spent over 44 years in the FDNY and held every uniformed rank prior to his appointment by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in January, 2010. Commissioner Cassano served as the FDNY's Chief of Department-the highest-ranking uniformed officer-from 2006 through 2010, overseeing many of the agency's most important bureaus including Fire and EMS Operations, Training, Safety, Fire Prevention and Communications. From 2001 to 2006, he served as Chief of Operations-a position to which he was appointed immediately after Sept. 11, 2001. Both as Chief of Operations and Chief of Department, Commissioner Cassano played a crucial role in rebuilding the Department in the wake of Sept. 11 and the loss of 343

members of the Department. In the years that followed, more than 6,800 new firefighters were hired and more than 6,000 others were promoted to various officer ranks as the Department went through a difficult but remarkable resurgence. Under his leadership, the FDNY became better equipped, trained and prepared than ever before in its history, and achieved unprecedented success with the fewest civilian fire fatalities ever and the fastest response times on record. Commissioner Cassano's career with the FDNY began with his appointment as a firefighter on Nov. 29, 1969. He steadily rose through the ranks with promotions to lieutenant (August 1977), captain (April 1984), battalion chief (August 1987), deputy chief (June 1993), deputy assistant chief (November 1999) and assistant chief (April 2001). Five times during his career he was cited for bravery. Prior to joining the FDNY, Commissioner Cassano served in the U.S. Army from October 1965 through July 1967 and was deployed to Vietnam in September 1966. While a firefighter, he attended John Jay College of Criminal Justice and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Science. Commissioner Cassano also received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from St. John's University in May, 2013. In September 2009, Commissioner Cassano was awarded France's highest decoration, the Legion D'Honneur by French President Nicolas Sarkozy. Commissioner Cassano grew up in Brooklyn and is a lifelong resident of New York City. He and his wife, Theresa, reside in Staten Island. They have five children and eight grandchildren.



**Celiga, Mike** - Chief Michael Celiga has been in the fire service since 1991, working for the Oakwood Village Fire Department until joining the East Cleveland Fire Department (ECFD), located in Cuyahoga County, in October 1997. In his over twenty years with ECFD, he has served in many executive ranks including Lieutenant, Captain and Deputy Chief. ECFD is a busy suburban department running over 6,000 emergency service calls annually for Fire and EMS response. Chief Celiga as responded to over 800 structure fires in his career at ECFD. In 2003 he received and currently maintains his paramedic certification. Chief Celiga continues to attain various other fire, emergency response and command education to support his career work. He leads a department of 42 professional full-time firefighters, and 18 part-time, manning two engines, a truck company, two rescue squads and a command vehicle operating out of two stations. In addition to his leadership with the ECFD, he currently works fire and EMS response for Concord Fire Department in Lake County.



**Cerda, Gunnar** – Rev. Gunnar Cerda is Ordained in the United Church of Christ and a Board Certified Chaplain. He is the Manager of Pastoral Care for OhioHealth Grant Medical Center, Freestanding Emergency Departments and Ambulatory Services and has been with OhioHealth for 10 years. Gunnar lives in Delaware, Ohio with his wife, two kids and two dogs.



**Click, Steven** - Lieutenant Steven M. Click is assigned to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Office of Personnel / Ohio ASS/ST program. Lieutenant Click has been involved in peer support with the Patrol's Member's Assistance Team (MAT) since its inception in 2002. He previously served as the Operational Commander. He now helps oversee all aspects of the MAT including policies, activations and training. Lieutenant Click has been active in peer support since being CISM trained in 1993. He was deployed to New York City twice after the 9/11 attacks and worked with the NYPD peer support program, POPPA. Lieutenant Click is trained in both group and individual peer support by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation. As a part of his current duties, he oversees the Post Critical Incident Seminars for Ohio. He has been utilized as a peer in South Carolina, Texas and Georgia, for their PCIS / STLS programs. He serves as the Crisis Awareness Training instructor for ASS/ST, having provided this training to a number of Ohio agencies including the Highway Patrol. Lieutenant Click has over 35 years with the Ohio State Highway Patrol and has served in a number of assignments including Commander of Cadet Training for the Patrol. He and his wife Lori live in Grove City, Ohio.





**DeCrane, Sean** - Sean DeCrane is a 25+ year veteran of the Cleveland Division of Fire. He has risen through the ranks and currently serves as a Battalion Chief covering Cleveland's Westside. He has served as the Director of Training and Acting Chief of Operations. Sean has been very involved in the research at Underwriters Laboratories and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. He serves on the UL Fire Council, is a member of the UL Fire Fighter Safety Research Institute's Advisory Board and is currently on a number of technical panels for research and standards. Chief DeCrane also represents the International Association of Fire Fighters in the International Code Council process and has served on the 2009, 2012, 2105 and 2018 Fire Code Developing Committee and as Chair for 2015 and 2018. Sean serves on the NFPA 1 Technical Advisory Panel, NFPA Research Foundation on Tall Wood Buildings and was recently appointed as the IAFF alternate to the NFPA Fire Behavior Research Technical Committee. Sean was recently awarded the 2015 UL Council Member's Achievement Award, 2014 Fire Equipment Manufacturer's Fire Safety Advocate of the Year Award, the 2013 International Association of Fire Chiefs Life Safety Award and the 2012 ICC-IAFC Life Safety Advocate Award. Sean recently was the keynote speaker for the 2015 Fire Department Instructor's Conference.



**Dixon, Charlie** - Charlie Dixon, Safety and Workforce Director for the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) and has been actively involved in Ohio's Fire Service since 1977. Charlie has served as a fulltime Captain / Paramedic Granville Volunteer Fire Department Inc. (Retired), EMS Instructor for the City of Columbus Division of Fire, Fire Training Supervisor with the Ohio Fire Academy, Fire / EMT Instructor for C-TEC of Licking County, Bladensburg, OH, V.F.D. Charlie is currently the Secretary / Treasurer for the Ohio Society of Fire Instructors (OSFSI), Represents the Flammable Liquids Industry on State Fire Council, Certified Fire Instructor, International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) RigPass SafeLand Instructor, member of International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI). Charlie has over 30 years working in and with Ohio's natural gas and oil industry.



**Fent, Kenneth** - Dr. Kenneth Fent is a research industrial hygienist at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Much of his research has focused on characterizing firefighters' exposures to chemical agents, including carcinogens, and evaluating the effectiveness of practices intended to reduce exposures. Dr. Fent was one of the principle researchers in the Cardiovascular & Chemical Exposure Risk in Modern Firefighting Study funded by the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.



**Fratantaro, Joe** - Joseph W. Fratantaro is a Community Hazard Mitigation manager at ISO, a member of the Verisk Insurance Solutions group at Verisk Analytics. He has been with ISO for 18 years and was a principal member of the FSRS revision team. He has 36 years' experience in emergency services and was the fire training coordinator for the Bucks County Emergency Services Training Center in Bucks County Pennsylvania. He is a certified Fire Service Instructor and Fire Company Officer.





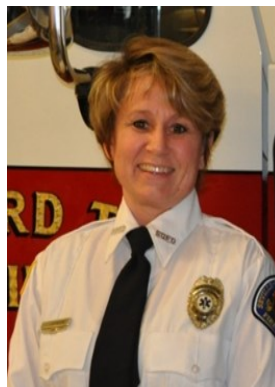
**Gasaway, Richard** - Rich Gasaway served 33 years on the front lines as a firefighter, EMT-Paramedic and fire chief and he earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree while studying how individuals, teams, and organizations develop and maintain situational awareness and make decisions in high-stress, high consequence, time-compressed environments. Dr. Gasaway is widely considered to be one of the nation's leading authorities on first responder situational awareness and decision making. He has authored 6 books and his contributions have been featured and referenced in more than 350 publications. A prolific speaker, Dr. Gasaway has earned the National Speakers Association's highest designation, Certified Speaking Professional. His leadership and safety programs have been presented to more than 51,000 first responders worldwide.



**Gates, Brent** - Brent Gates, Fire Chief New Concord, Ohio. Chief Gates has been a member of the New Concord Fire Department for over 37 years, serving as Chief for the last 23 years. The New Concord Fire Department is a combination department responding to over 1,400 calls per year. Chief Gates is active in the State of Ohio with the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association, President of Southeast Ohio Fire Chiefs, as an instructor at the Ohio Fire Academy, active as a lead fire instructor with the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) Responding to Oilfield Emergencies Academy, a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI), and the Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors (OSFSI).



**Horn, Gavin** - Gavin Horn has served as the IFSI Director of Research since 2004, immediately after receiving his PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research interests lie in the areas focuses on firefighter health and safety, first responder technology development, material testing and design, infrared imaging and nondestructive evaluation. Gavin is a member of NFPA's Technical Committee on Special Operations Clothing & Equipment and the Technical Committee on Fundamentals of Fire Control within a Structure Utilizing Fire Dynamics, sits on the Fire Protection Research Foundation's Board of Trustees and serves on the Advisory Board for UL's Firefighter Safety Research Institute. Gavin has published over 45 peer-reviewed journal articles and given more than 70 presentations at professional conferences around the world. He has been awarded First Place at the Society of Experimental Mechanics International Student Speaking Competition, an M&IE Alumni Board Teaching Fellowship, and has been named to the University of Illinois' "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students" six times. Gavin serves as a volunteer firefighter/engineer with the Savoy (IL) Fire Department, where he was named the 2011 Firefighter of the Year.



**Johnson, Tammy** - Captain Tammy Johnson started her fire service career 15 years ago on a small volunteer department in Sterling, Ohio. She was the first paramedic on their department and became a firefighter soon after. Since 2004, she has served as a firefighter/paramedic with the Seville-Guilford Fire & EMS Department, where she has risen to the rank of Captain and oversees EMS operations & training. As an instructor, Capt. Johnson has worked with the Wayne County Career Center and Wayne County Regional Training Facility, and has a special interest in working with student with different learning styles.



**Kale-Cheever, Megan** - Megan Kale-Cheever, LSW, CT, GC-C completed her Master of Social Work degree at the University of Arkansas and is a Licensed Social Worker in the state of Ohio. During her graduate studies, Megan served as teaching assistant for an undergraduate thanatology course, which centered on end-of-life issues, grief and loss, traumatic death, ethics, and cultural perspectives on death and dying. Megan currently practices as a bereavement counselor at Mount Carmel Hospice and Palliative Care, where she provides individual counseling and support group facilitation. She also feels privileged to lead Mount Carmel's Evergreen Program, a family-centered grief support program serving school-aged children and their caregivers. Megan holds a Certification in Thanatology through the Association for Death Education and Counseling and is a Certified Grief Counselor through the American Academy of Grief Counseling.



**Kellogg, Kevin** - Kevin completed his undergraduate studies in Civil Engineering at OSU. He became a full-time firefighter/paramedic at Violet Twp. FD in 1997. He left the fire service to pursue full-time ministry at a local church. He then pursued graduate degrees in Theology and Business. He has been the Fire Chaplain for Violet and Truro Twp. FD's since 2001. He is also a part-time hospital Chaplain for OhioHealth. He has completed numerous CISM and Chaplain trainings. In addition he serves full-time as a Pastor at a church in Pickerington. Kevin and his wife Tammy have two adult children and a grandson on the way.

**Klouda, Ken** - Chief Ken Klouda became the head of the Fire Prevention Bureau in November 2016. Most recently, he served as Assistant Chief of the bureau, a role he assumed in November 2013. He joined the State Fire Marshal's office in December 2010 as a Fire Training Officer 2. Before coming to Columbus, Klouda began his career in the fire service in 2003 at the Mantua-Shalersville Fire Department in Mantua, Ohio as a firefighter/EMT-paramedic. Klouda also served that role at the Hiram Fire Department in Hiram, Ohio. While at Hiram Fire Department he facilitated fire inspections in the Village of Hiram and Hiram Township. Klouda has extensive education and training, including an associate's degree in Fire Protection Technology and a bachelor of science degree in Emergency Management from the University of Akron.



**Leininger, Robert** - Springfield Township Fire Chief, Robert Leininger leads one of the busiest fire departments in Hamilton County. He has served as the Chief since 1996 when the department was first established. With eighty full and part-time firefighters, Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians in 2 fire stations, his focus is to provide exemplary fire and Emergency Medical Services to Township residents, businesses and visitors. Born and raised in Springfield Township, Chief Leininger joined the Northern Hills Volunteer Fire Department in 1981, after graduating from Eastern Kentucky University with Bachelors in Police Administration and Fire Science. Chief Leininger spent 9 years accessioning through the ranks, and was promoted to Fire Chief of the Northern Hills Volunteer Fire department in 1989. He was later instrumental in consolidating three volunteer fire departments into a single fire department which would be operated under Springfield Township. There, he was appointed the first official Springfield Township Fire Chief in 1996. In addition to promoting safety messages to the public,

Chief Leininger has played a key role in strategizing regional alliances with his strong partnership with area hospitals, Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency, neighboring fire departments and the "Hamilton County Fire Chiefs Association". Chief Leininger continues to evolve the department with a vision for the future.



**McCullough, William** - Chief McCullough is a 23 year veteran of the fire service and currently serves as an operations Battalion Chief at Jefferson Twp. Fire Department/MEC EMS – Franklin County. He is an Ohio Firefighter II, Paramedic, Fire and EMS Instructor, Live Fire Instructor, Rescue Technician, and a Certified Fire Safety Inspector. He has extensive teaching experience and is an instructor in Ohio Fire Instructor program.



**McFarland, Kevin** - Kevin McFarland is a lieutenant with the Violet Township Fire Department and a 23 year veteran of the fire service. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Otterbein University and is a graduate of Ohio Fire Executive Class 15. Kevin has been a certified fire instructor at the Ohio Fire Academy since 2002 and with Bowling Green State University Fire School since 2005.



**Rampe, Tom** – Tom Rampe, ISO Fire Protection Field Analyst-Community Hazard Mitigation Services, has 30+ years' experience in the fire service industry. From January 1986 to September 1995, he conducted on site insurance underwriting property surveys. Since September 1995, Rampe conducted on site surveys of cities, villages, and townships to determine public fire suppression capabilities. This information is used by insurance companies in determining property insurance rates. He is a retired member of the Kalida Volunteer Fire Department, where he served 8 years as Fire Chief and 7 years as Assistant Fire Chief with certifications of Level II Firefighter, Certified Fire Safety Inspector, Certified Fire Instructor, and Medical First Responder.



**Salka, John** – John Salka (ret) served with the FDNY for over 33 years, the past 15 years a battalion chief in the 18th Battalion in the Bronx. Prior to being promoted to battalion chief, Chief Salka was assigned as the Captain of 48 Engine also in the Bronx. He is a New York State certified instructor and also lectures nationally. He is a seminar presenter and has presented at the Firehouse Expo in Baltimore, the FDIC in Indianapolis, the NY State Association of Fire Chiefs show and many other venues. Chief Salka writes the monthly back page column "The Fire Scene" in Firehouse Magazine and has also written for Fire Engineering, Size-Up and the FDNY training magazine WNYF. John served as the co-lead instructor for the H.O.T. Firefighter Safety and Survival program at FDIC for over ten years, serves on the FDIC advisory board, and is the co-host for the radio show "The Command Post" heard on Fire Engineering Talk Radio. Chief Salka has also found the time to work for the NIOSH Firefighter Fatality Investigation and

Prevention Program. John is the author of the best-selling books *"First In Last Out Leadership Lessons from the New York Fire Department"* and *"The Engine Company."* He received the 2001 FDIC Training Achievement Award for his *Get Out Alive* firefighter survival training program and travels extensively training firefighters throughout the 50 states and Canada in tactics, strategy, leadership and safety & survival. Chief Salka has also served as a volunteer firefighter for over 30 years.



**Schutz, Robert** - Robert J. Schutz, P.E., P.S., CBO, has served as an Assistant Architect Administrator at the Ohio Board of Building Standards. While with the State of Ohio, he has oversight of the new Residential Code of Ohio program, including certification of local residential code departments and personnel. Previously, Bob served ICC as Manager of Instructors with responsibilities for the selection, oversight and quality of ICC's cadre of staff and contract instructors. His varied previous experiences include active military service during the 1980's as an Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) officer; building code enforcement for several central Ohio jurisdictions, including ten years as Chief Building Official (CBO) for the City of Powell where he also served as City Engineer and Director of Public Services; and Chief Engineer, for the Ohio Department of Health where he chaired the state's plumbing advisory board, was chief of plumbing and was a voting member on the Ohio Board of Building Standards. He is experienced in combat construction, facilities engineering and project management as well as having been a plumber, sheet metal worker and brick mason. Mr. Schutz has a civil engineering degree from Ohio Northern University with post graduate studies at the University of Southern California and the Ohio State University in environmental law, land-use planning and public administration. He is a registered Professional Engineer and Professional Surveyor, certified Chief Building Official and holds Ohio certifications as Building Official, Plans Examiner and Inspector for Building, Plumbing, Electrical Safety and Residential. Bob instructs IBC structural and nonstructural seminars, all IRC subjects, mechanical, plumbing and fuel gas codes and administrative topics.



**Sendelbach, Tim** – Tim is a 32-year student and educator of the fire and emergency services, currently serving as Editor-in-Chief of *Firehouse* overseeing the content and editorial direction of *Firehouse Magazine*, *Firehouse.com*, *Firehouse Expo*, *Firehouse World*, and related products. Tim previously served as the Editor-in-Chief for *FireRescue* magazine and *Firefighternation.com*. Tim is a past president of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) and has served as an Assistant Fire Chief with the North Las Vegas Fire Department, as the Chief of Training for Savannah (GA) Fire & Emergency Services, and as Assistant Fire Chief for Missouri City (TX) Fire & Rescue Services. Tim is a credentialed Chief Fire Officer and Chief Training Officer with the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) and has earned a master's degree in Leadership from Bellevue University, bachelor's degrees in

Fire Administration and Arson, and an associate's degree in Emergency Medical Care from Eastern Kentucky University. Tim has also served as the editor of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) publication *The Instructor*, and as a contributing author to numerous other publications including: *The Volunteer Voice*, *Firehouse.com Members Zone*, *National Fire & Rescue*, *The Atlantic Firefighter*, and the *Fire & Emergency Television Network (FETN)*, for which he was the writer/developer of the featured "SURVIVAL!" program. In addition to his numerous accomplishments as a writer, Tim has been a featured speaker in 47 U.S. states, and six Canadian and two Australian provinces. In 2001, Tim was awarded the George Hughes Award from the Texas Association of Fire Educators (TAFE) for his accomplishments as a speaker and trainer in the state of Texas. In 2002, Tim was awarded the prestigious Innovator of the Year Award from the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) for his innovative training ideas and concepts in the area of firefighter safety and survival. In 2007, Tim presented the keynote address at the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis and was also selected to serve on the City of Charleston Post-Incident Assessment and Review Team following the tragic loss of nine firefighters in the Sofa Super Store Fire. In 2014, Tim presented the keynote address for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) Life Safety Summit in Tampa, Florida, which was attended by 200 of the most influential leaders in the American fire service. Tim is a strong advocate for firefighter health and wellness and frequently competes in long distance triathlons and related fitness events around the world.



**Senter, Wayne** - Wayne Senter was appointed to the position of Executive Director on January 1, 2014 by the Washington Fire Chiefs Board of Directors. Prior to that he served as Fire Chief at South Kitsap Fire Rescue, in Port Orchard Washington from December 2004 until his retirement on January 1, 2014. He served at South Kitsap Fire and Rescue beginning in 1997 when he was hired as the Assistant Chief for Support Services. Wayne has over 38 years of fire service experience in Washington State, 25 of those years as a chief fire officer. He began his career with the Auburn Fire Department in King County Washington in 1979 and rose to the rank of Battalion Chief Fire Marshal in nine years. Wayne earned an ATA in Fire Command Administration in 1985 from Edmonds Community College and a BS in Post-Secondary Education in 1997 at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He was the first District Chief in Washington to earn the Chief Fire Officer designation through the Commission on Professional

Credentialing. Wayne has developed and delivered fire prevention and leadership presentations locally and internationally. Wayne's leadership experience include: Non-Commissioned Officer US Army 1974-78, Director representing the International Association of Fire Chiefs on the Center for Public Safety Excellence Board, Member Underwriters Laboratories Fire Council, Co-founder and Chairman of International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire and Life Safety Section, President of the Washington Fire Chiefs, and President of the Kitsap County Fire Chiefs. He is actively involved in his community and has leadership experience as: President of the Port Orchard Rotary International Club, President South Kitsap High School Football Association, and President First Lutheran Community Church Council. In 2006 Wayne was named man of the year by the Port Orchard and South Kitsap Chamber of Commerce. In 2013 he was named Washington Fire Chiefs' "Dan Packer" fire chief of the year and was a finalist in Fire Chief Magazine Career Fire Chief of the year. Also, in 2013 he was named Citizen of the Year by the Kitsap County Fire Commissioners Association. Wayne has been married to Kim for 37 years and together they have three adult children, Aaron who works as a Chef De Cuisine at Seattle University, Craig who is a Hydrologist with the USGS in Tacoma and Chelsea who is a homemaker. Wayne and Kim are proud of their seven grandkids, Olivia, Avalynn, Brooke, Mack, Amelia, Graham and Oakley. For fun, Wayne likes to fish, golf and camp.



**Sylvester, Steve** - Steve Sylvester is vice president and general manager of field operations for Columbia Gas of Ohio, the NiSource Inc. natural gas subsidiary serving approximately 1.4 million residential, commercial and industrial customers in the company's 61-county service territory. He is responsible for all field operations activities and the safe, reliable and efficient operation and maintenance of distribution pipelines and other facilities providing natural gas service to customers. Before his current role, Sylvester served as vice president of distribution operations for the NiSource local gas distribution companies in Ohio, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Virginia. He was responsible for leading the dispatching business application planning and business improvement functions, supporting the natural gas utilities across the seven-state jurisdictions. He joined the company in 1986 as a pipefitter in Delaware, Ohio. Since beginning his career, he has served in a variety of roles with increasing responsibility and has extensive experience in all aspects of field operations and emergency response. Sylvester currently serves on the board of directors for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio and was also an executive leadership member of the American Heart Association of Central Ohio.



**Turano, Karen** - Karen joined Connor, Evans & Hafenstein LLP as an associate in 2016. Prior to this time, she worked for a small law firm in the Columbus area for approximately 9 years. She has concentrated her practice area on representing injured workers at all levels of hearings before the Industrial Commission of Ohio. Karen has also practiced law before the Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund, the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and the Ohio Court of Claims in Victims of Crime Compensation. In addition, Karen has first-chair litigation experience before the various Courts of Common Pleas throughout the State of Ohio and has argued successfully before the Tenth District Court of Appeals of Ohio in mandamus actions. Karen has also practiced law and argued on behalf of injured workers before the Supreme Court of Ohio. Karen attended Capital University Law School and earned her J.D. degree in 2007. While in law school, Karen was a volunteer with The National Center for Adoption Law & Policy. She also participated in Capital University Law School's externship program with the Franklin County Domestic Relations Court, Juvenile Division. Prior to attending law school, Karen graduated *cum laude* from and received her Bachelor of Arts in History from The University of Georgia. While attending the University of Georgia, she was honored by being selected as a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.



**Wetherbee, Mike** - Mike Wetherbee serves as chief of the Wellington Fire District in Lorain County, Ohio. The District protects 13,000 citizens in 125 square miles, and consists of one village and five townships. Chief Wetherbee has 31 years in the fire service and has promoted through the ranks before being appointed Chief of Department in December of 2011. Chief Wetherbee oversees all operational and administrative activities of the 32 member combination department. Chief Wetherbee's certifications include Firefighter 2, Fire Officer 4, Certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Instructor, and EMT-B. Chief Wetherbee is a member of the Ohio Fire Chief's Assn., the Northeast Ohio Fire Chief's Association, the Tri-County CISD Team, and also serves as Vice President of the Lorain County Fire Chiefs Association. Prior to accepting the position of full-time chief, Mike worked 25 years in materials management and steel procurement in the automotive industry. Mike also worked for the South Lorain County Ambulance district for 25 years.



**Winkler, Jerry** - Chief Jerry Winkler (Ret) EFO, CFO, OFC, served 11 years as Chief of the Seville-Guilford Fire & EMS Department, retiring from full-time service in 2017. He began his career as a volunteer with Smithville FD/Central Fire District in 1991, where he currently serves as a Captain. As a fire and EMS instructor, Chief Winkler has taught with the Wayne County Regional Training Facility, the University of Akron, the Wayne County Career Center, and has presented at the Medina County Emergency Services Conference. Chief Winkler is a former OFCA Board Member and currently serves on the Publication Committee.



**Zeeb, Paul** - Dr. Paul Zeeb, MD, FACEP, is a Columbus, Ohio emergency physician practicing at Mount Carmel East/West/Grove City Hospitals and Diley Ridge Medical Center. He is board certified in emergency medicine and holds subspecialty board certification in emergency medical services. He has practiced emergency medicine for 35 years. Dr. Zeeb is the medical director for the Metropolitan Emergency Consortium (MEC EMS), a consortium of 17 EMS agencies serving the eastern suburbs of the metropolitan Columbus Ohio area as well as portions of Licking and Fairfield County. He is the chairman of Ohio's Division of EMS Region 4 Regional Physician Advisory Board and is a member of the Ohio Emergency Medical Fire and Transportation Services Board's Medical Oversight Committee.



**Zipser, Neal** - Neal Zipser is the Community Affairs Manager with Kidde Fire Safety. Neal manages the company's relationships it has with its non-profit partners and is the company's liaison with the fire service. In his current role, Neal works with fire departments and industry/state associations on smoke alarm installation programs, public education activities and other community risk reduction initiatives. He speaks regularly on home fire safety technology and how families can better protect themselves from the hazards of fire. Before joining Kidde in 2012, Neal worked for 20 years in the automotive industry where he led marketing and communications activities at a couple of automotive parts suppliers and a large trade association, and is a former newspaper reporter for a metro Detroit newspaper.