

Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 699, Blackstone, VA 23824

Phone: (888) 818-0983

Web Site: www.vfca.us



We're proud to have you as a member of the VFCA!

On behalf the entire Board of Directors for the Virginia Fire Chief's Association, I wanted to take this opportunity to say, "hello" and welcome to our association. Thank you for joining Virginia's premiere connection for fire service leaders of all ranks.

Your membership automatically includes being able to participate with any VFCA section (Federal/Military, Company Officer, Administrative Professionals, Women of Fire & EMS, and/or Community Risk Reduction/Life Safety). The VFCA holds regular board meetings bi-monthly and each section meets regularly. We host events throughout the year and would encourage you to attend and get involved. For a list of events, check out your VFCA site at www.vfca.us.

We have a number of exciting volunteer opportunities available on a variety of committees including Membership, Outreach/Website, and Legislative. We are happy to help you find something that meets your interests and serves your personal growth needs. Contact information for all Board Members, Staff, Section, and Committee leaders is attached.

Our VFCA sends out most communications via email, so please make sure to keep your contact information up to date on our website in the member's area. We send out a quarterly newsletter called the "Commonwealth Chief"; highlighting conferences, webinars, publications, and networking opportunities for all. Start taking advantage of all your Member Benefits including publications, meetings and events, and courses, and we welcome your personal contributions to publish an article of interest to you!

I have found that the more energy I put into the organization, the more I get back, and I am sure you will also find this to be true as you get more involved. I look forward to seeing you at a VFCA event soon, so we can become personally acquainted. Please contact me if you have any questions, and again, welcome! You have made a sound investment in your professional future.

Warm regards,

Kevin Good

President

Board of Director's CY 2025 Top Goals & Priorities



- ❖ Leadership
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Advocacy

Goal #1: Legislative Initiatives

- Identify the Legislative Priorities of the VFCA (One Pager) and utilize to “*Reform the Narrative*” to advocate through the entire membership.
- Identify members and board members to serve as representatives to attend General Assembly (House and Senate) Sessions when needed.
- Enhance outreach through Division VPs to contact Elected Officials during “Out of Session” timeframes to promote VFCA and the priorities of the Association. Engage VFCA Committee members (Retiree/Life Member, Chaplains).
- Sustain continuous communication with Two Capitols and cultivating new ideas for support needed during GA Sessions and Out of Session timeframes.

Goal #2: Membership Engagement

- Increase Social Media Presence and Increase Follower Base by 30%.
- Post a minimum of one social media post per week.
- Host an Annual Update of the VFCA in a “Facebook live” event.
- Release Quarterly “Commonwealth Chief” hard copy and digital format.
- Website Updates-All Sections and Committees by May 1, 2025
 - Sustain email feature to communicate with members and stakeholders.
- Sustain One-Year Membership for VFOA / VCOA Graduates to ensure success of VFCA
- Sustain and increase “Departmental Membership” Level(s) memberships.
- Sustain New Fire Chief (1st Year) Annual Networking Opportunity-Virginia Fire Rescue Conference
- Roll Out and Promotion of “On-Line” Store for VFCA merchandise.
- Promote VFCA Scholarship program
- Update handout materials to include brochures, banners as needed

Goal #3: Stakeholder Engagement

- Attend and network with VPFF, VFPA, VSFA and others as determined by the Board
- Engage with VFPA as it relates to the CRR Committee.
- Explore new opportunities in promoting Membership Activities
- Creative engagements in Lobbying Activities; Partner with VPFF.
- Sustain support and relationships with state agencies, i.e. VDFP, VDEM, OEMS, VSP

Goal #4: Training and Education

- Support annual training and educational opportunities.
 - Virginia Fire & Rescue Conference
 - Virginia Fire Officer Academy(s) / Virginia Chief Officer Academy(s)
 - Develop a model succession plan for Incident Management Team
 - Company Officer Summit
 - Fire Chief’s Summit
 - Federal / Military Summit

Life Safety & Community Risk Reduction Summit

Small Fire Department Summit

Women of Fire & EMS Summit

- Integrate and sustain VFCA Chaplain's Committee training interest into annual work plan
- Integrate and sustain VFCA Retiree & Life Member committee interests into annual work plan

Goal #5: VFCA Board Activity and Participation

- Ensure emails are up-to-date and appropriate positions are receiving appropriate emails.
- Meetings and attendance at VFCA events & activities-*Be Present*
- Bi-Monthly "In-Person Meeting"
 - Virginia Fire Rescue Conference
 - Summits-Fire Chief's, LS/CRR, Company Officer, Small Fire Departments, Women of Fire & EMS, Federal/Military
 - Minimum of three Shaker's Forums
- Bi-Monthly Executive Board Meetings
- Sustain VFCA Surplus Sharing Initiative-Chief Tobia
- Sustain VFCA calendar with key dates for activities of the association (grant openings and deadlines, meetings, fiscal/tax dates, etc)
- Sustain support to the Virginia Fire Service Board.
- Sustain support the VFSB Representative to the Board of Housing and Community Development.
- Continue to improve new Board Member Orientation / Onboarding expectations.
- Provide fidelity to each Board Member on individualized expectations
- Annual Budget Board of Director Deep-Dive-October BoD Meeting
 - Standardize Budget Submission Process for FY26
 - Prioritized funding bi-annual review by the Executive Board
- PR / Marketing Advancements-Communications Planning for FY26 & Beyond-TELLING OUR WHY!

WELCOME



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Virginia Fire Chiefs Association

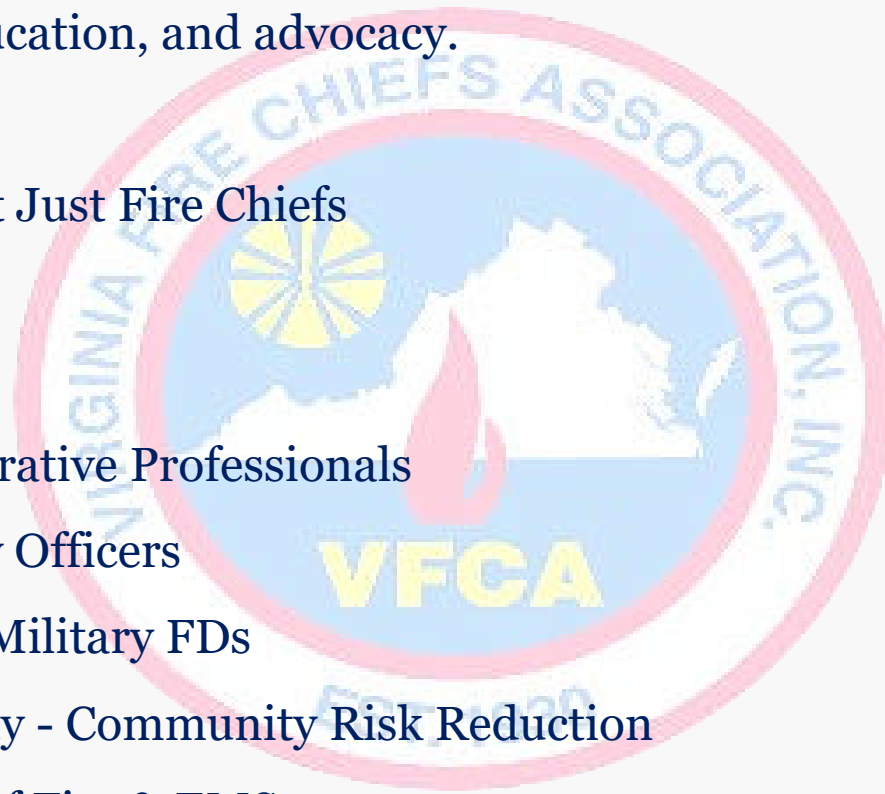
- Organized in 1930 as State Fire Chiefs Association of Virginia
- Chief R.S. Baughan of Norfolk served as first President
- 2002 changed name to the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association to better promote organization & align with other state associations.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

VFCA Mission

- Mission: To advance Virginia's fire and emergency services through leadership, education, and advocacy.
- All Ranks—Not Just Fire Chiefs
- Sections
 - Administrative Professionals
 - Company Officers
 - Federal/Military FDs
 - Life Safety - Community Risk Reduction
 - Women of Fire & EMS



Getting to Know Your VFCA

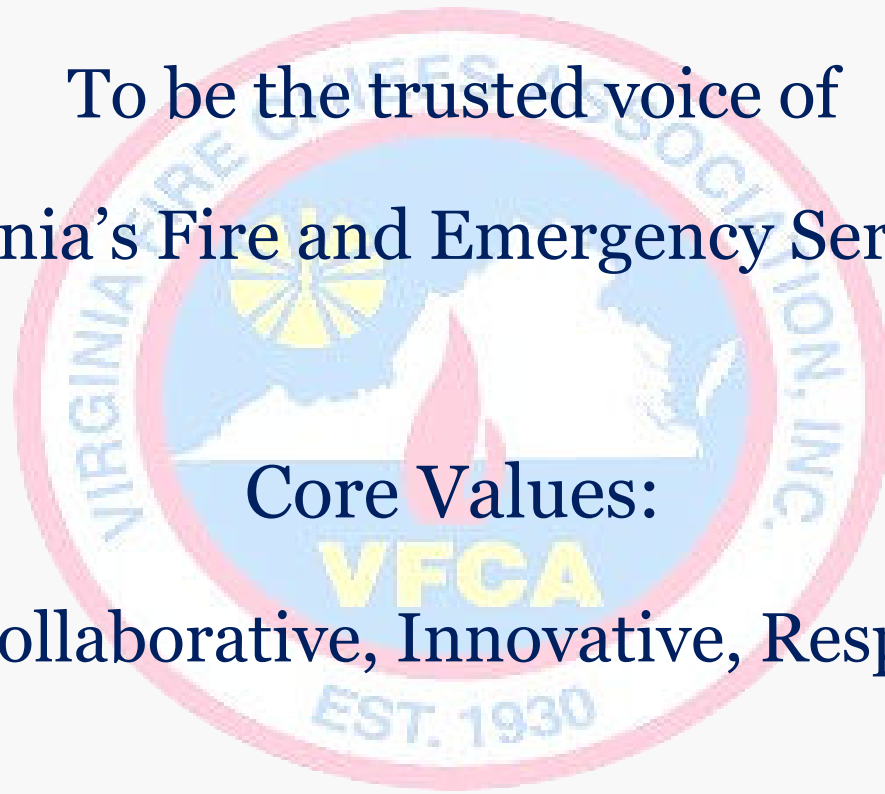
VFCA Vision & Core Values

Vision:

To be the trusted voice of
Virginia's Fire and Emergency Services.

Core Values:

Integrity, Collaborative, Innovative, Respect, Service



Getting to Know Your VFCA

VA Fire Chiefs Foundation

- Provides educational opportunities, including scholarships
- Develops public relation programs
- Assists other organizations in the development & implementation of public education
- Provides grants to other Fire & EMS service organizations
- Raises funds to help support the VFOA, VCOA and scholarships through golf tournaments, 5K Run/Walks, annual fundraising campaign and silent auction at the annual VFRC.

Getting to Know Your VFCA

VFCA Future Initiatives

- Full Implementation of New Website with Expanded Member Services
- Expand Membership and VFCA Benefits of Membership
- Sustain cutting edge Virginia Fire-Rescue Conference learning opportunities
- Engage VFCA Division Vice Presidents
- Continue Fire Chiefs Summit and Section Summits
- Health & Wellness Training
- Increase Legislative Influence

Getting to Know Your VFCA

VFCA Important Dates

- Shaker's Forum-Roanoke—March 2nd
- 6th Annual VFCF 5K Run/Walk—March 22nd
- Women of Fire & EMS Summit—Sept. 26th - 28th
- 11th Annual Fire Chief's Summit-May 15th & 16th
- 2nd Annual VFCF Charity Sporting Clays-May 30th
- 15th Annual VFCF Spotsylvania Golf Tournament – June 13th
- VA Fire Officer Academy / VA Chief Officer Academy—June 22-27th
- ALERRT Summit—Nov. 14th 2025
- 11th Annual VFCF/JCC Golf Tournament—October 3rd
- Administrative Professional Summit – October 9th and 10th
- FED/MIL Section Summit-October 31st, 2025
- Company Officers Summit – November 13th and 14th 2025
- Lobby Day—January 2026
- Virginia Fire Rescue Conference –February 16-21, 2026



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

PRESIDENT KEVIN GOOD

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Fort Belvoir Fire & Emergency Services
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 28
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA:
Expand my professional network and work alongside other leaders on making the fire service better than when they joined it.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT KEVIN DUCK

- ❖ Position: Commissioner of Department
- ❖ Department: Carrsville Volunteer Fire & Rescue
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 44
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I had a desire to be a part of a collaboration of individuals that do so much for the fire service in the Commonwealth



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

MARCI STONE

- ❖ Position: Deputy Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Roanoke Fire-EMS
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 28
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I wanted to continue to better fire and emergency services today and into the future.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association **TREASURER** **JAMES “JIMMY” JOHNSON**

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief (Former)
- ❖ Department: Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 55
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: Joined the VFCA and the Board in 1988 to represent and advocate for the Volunteer Fire Departments & to encourage and support the growth of the VFCA in becoming the premier leader it is today for the Virginia Fire Service.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

VANCE COOPER

- ❖ Position: Deputy Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Virginia Beach Fire
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 35
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I wanted to learn how to help the fire service through state level advocacy, leadership and education.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT—DIVISION 1

TIM MCKAY

- ❖ Position: Deputy Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Chesterfield County Fire and EMS
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 33
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: The opportunity to join other leaders who truly care about Virginia's fire service in enacting change for the better.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT – DIVISION 2

MATTHEW TOBIA

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Harrisonburg Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 37
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: The ability to be a part of a professional organization committed to ethical leadership through action.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT - DIVISION 3

GREG WORMSER

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Lynchburg Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 29
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To partner with agencies and colleagues across the commonwealth for the betterment of service delivery, training, and recruitment/retention.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT- DIVISION 4

TODD LAGOW

- ❖ Position: Fire & Rescue Chief, Emergency Management Coordinator
- ❖ Department: City of Norton Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 37
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I want to help bring much needed representation and resources to division 4



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT—DIVISION 5

MICHAEL CARTER

- ❖ Position: Battalion Chief
- ❖ Department: City of Virginia Beach
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 23
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I joined the VFCA for the various opportunities to learn from and work with some of the best Fire and Emergency Services personnel in the Commonwealth and beyond.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT – DIVISION 6

ABBIE JOHNSTON

- ❖ Position: Deputy Chief of Operations
- ❖ Department: Bedford County Fire & Rescue
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 23
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I initially joined the VFCA because it afforded me so many opportunities to get connected with and learn from other fire service leaders in Virginia. By serving on committees, and now serving in leadership of a new section, I feel like I am taking an important step in transitioning from passive membership to active engagement.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT – DIVISION 7

TODD LUPTON

- ❖ Position: Deputy Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Loudoun County Combined Fire & Rescue System
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 28
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I joined the VFCA to network and collaborate with other Fire and EMS leaders both career and volunteer from across the Commonwealth.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT – AT LARGE 1

TIM ESTES, SR.

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Abingdon Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 42
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: Networking and a greater opportunity to make a difference.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT - AT LARGE 2

NESTOR MANGUBAT

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Portsmouth Fire, Rescue, & Emergency Services
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 29
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I want to be part of a statewide organization of leaders who strive to improve the Fire and EMS profession.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT - AT LARGE 3

STEVEN E. HALL, JR.

- ❖ Position: Assistant Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: City of Richmond Fire & Emergency Services
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 25
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I knew the VFCA was an organization that I wanted to be a part of after graduating from the VFOA in 2015. The learning opportunities and networking are invaluable. There is no question that my membership in the association has contributed to my success, and I look forward to continuing to learn and paying it forward



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VICE PRESIDENT - AT LARGE 4

MATT FOX

- ❖ Position: Deputy Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Fredericksburg Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 22
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I joined the VFCA to collaborate with other leaders and make a difference in Virginia's Fire/EMS Service."



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS

PRESIDENT: MANDY WAYBRIGHT

- ❖ Position: Office Manager
- ❖ Department: Harrisonburg Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 4
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I came to the Harrisonburg Fire Department with no fire service background. Joining the VFCA has allowed me the opportunity to network and make valuable connections that I would not have made otherwise. Through these connections I am better equipped to serve and make a positive impact.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS VICE-PRESIDENT: KELLIE DRAGICH

- ❖ Position: Administrative Manager
- ❖ Department: Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 4
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I began my career with the Stafford County Fire Marshals Office and later became Administrative Manager to the Fire Chief. My background in the fire service started in Ohio with Portage County EMA. I learned about the VFCA after my promotion to Administrative Manager, and it has provided me with valuable networking opportunities. Through these connections, I've gained insights and professional relationships that have greatly enhanced my career.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Administrative Professionals Section

Section Leadership

President: Mandy Waybright, Harrisonburg Fire Department

Vice-President: Kellie Dragich, Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department

Secretary: Vacant

The mission of the Administrative Professionals Section of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association is to:

- Provide quality assistance to the fire service and our community
- Maintain a working partnership with administrative professionals
- Enhance communication and sharing of information through networking and technology
- Provide opportunities for education and training

Getting to Know Your VFCA

Administrative Professionals Section

Purpose

To provide administrative professionals opportunities for growth and development, thereby increasing our value to the fire service and community.

Vision

The Administrative Professionals Section we serve as an integral and dynamic part of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association (VFCA), a resource and model for the fire service and the communities we serve.

Mission

The mission of the Administrative Professionals Section (APS) is to:

Provide quality assistance to the fire service and our community

Maintain a working partnership with administrative professionals

Enhance communication and sharing of information through networking and technology

Provide opportunities for education and training



History

The Executive Board of the VFCA recognized the need to build a partnership with administrative professionals working in fire service organizations across the Commonwealth. On August 8, 2000, the Board approved a new section of the VFCA called the Administrative Professionals allowing administrative professionals the opportunity to meet, network, and provide training opportunities at the annual Mid-Atlantic Expo and Symposium.

Upon completion of preliminary research, a committee was formed to establish a charter, by-laws, and elect officers. They met for the first time on July 9, 2001. The Section charter was approved by VFCA's Executive Board on September 10, 2001.

Meetings are held on a quarterly basis and rotate throughout member jurisdictions with the exception of the 1st quarter meeting held in conjunction with the Virginia Fire & Rescue Conference.

Membership

The APS welcomes administrative professionals from the fire rescue service and partnering organizations. Annual Section Membership is \$40.

Membership provides you with opportunities to receive valuable training, and to network with experienced, dynamic individuals. Members receive *Behind the Scene* section newsletter, and the *Commonwealth Chief* magazine. Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance is also provided for members.

Register online at www.vfca.us

Section Leadership

President:

Mandy Waybright
Harrisonburg Fire
Department

Vice-President:

Kellie Dragich
Stafford County Fire
and Rescue
Department

Secretary:

Vacant

Getting to Know Your VFCA

Administrative Professionals Section

The APS has at least four meetings each year, around the state, including our annual retreat. The 2025 retreat will be held on, September 18th and 19th. It is open to members and nonmembers; registration is required.

You'll also see our Section at the:

6th Annual VFCF 5K Run/Walk in Williamsburg – March 22nd

2nd Annual VFCF Charity Shoot-May 30th

VFCF Spotsylvania Golf Tournament in Spotsylvania – June 13th

VFCF/JCF Golf Tournament – September 13th

VFCF Salem Golf Tournament in Blacksburg – Oct 7th

Virginia Fire Chiefs Conference – February 2026 in Virginia Beach



We encourage all fire and rescue service Administrative Professionals to join our section! If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to us! We would love to have YOU!

Administrative Professionals Section

Purpose: To provide administrative professionals opportunities for growth and development , thereby increasing our value to the fire services and community.

Section has at least four meetings a year around the state. Anyone can host a meeting. We have our annual retreat which is open to members and nonmembers. Our retreat is a great time for networking. Section also helps the VFCA with their annual Virginia Fire Rescue Conference, golf tournaments, and the 5k run/walk.

Administrative professionals-please contact us about the Admin Professionals Section.

We would love to have YOU!



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

WOMEN OF FIRE & EMS SECTION

SECTION CHAIR: LAURA ARRINGTON

- ❖ Position: Battalion Chief
- ❖ Department: Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Fire & EMS, Naval Air Station Oceana, District 3
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 20
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I have always been a passionate advocate of the well being and safety of others. I joined VFCA to become an active participant in shaping the future of the fire and emergency services. VFCA provides a platform to collaborate with like minded professionals who will be the ambassadors and change makers for Virginia.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

WOMEN OF FIRE & EMS SECTION

ABOUT YOUR PRESIDENT

- ❖ Started as a cadet at the age of 16 at St. Robert City Fire & Rescue in Missouri in 2004 till I was hired full time as a career firefighter working there from 2008-2012.
- ❖ Volunteer Firefighter for Waynesville Rural Fire Protection District, Missouri from 2009-2012
- ❖ Contract Firefighter on Wake Island and Morón Air Base, Spain from 2012-2016.
- ❖ DOD firefighter, Captain, Battalion Chief of Training 2016-Present
 - ❖ Navy Region Mid-Atlantic 2016-2020 & 2024- Present
 - ❖ Navy Region Hawaii, Kaneohe 2020-2024

Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

WOMEN OF FIRE & EMS SECTION

VICE~PRESIDENT: KIRSTEN MARTIN

- ❖ Position: Lieutenant
- ❖ Department: Goochland County Fire & Rescue
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 26
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I joined in 2018 prior to attending VFOA to support the organization that was supporting development of future fire service leaders.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

WOMEN OF FIRE & EMS SECTION

SECRETARY: RIANA CASTILLOVEITIA

- ❖ Position: Assistant Chief of EMS/HSO
- ❖ Department: Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Fire & Emergency Services
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 26
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I truly believe in the mantra “It takes a village”. I am proud to be a member of the fire village.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

WOMEN OF FIRE & EMS SECTION

TREASURER: DIANA FOLEY

- ❖ Position: Assistant Chief of EMS
- ❖ Department: Martinsville Fire & EMS
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 10
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I joined shortly after completing the Virginia Fire Officers Academy. In the academy, I learned about the organization and the value it provides in terms of resources, education, and comradery with individuals in the fire service across the Commonwealth.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.

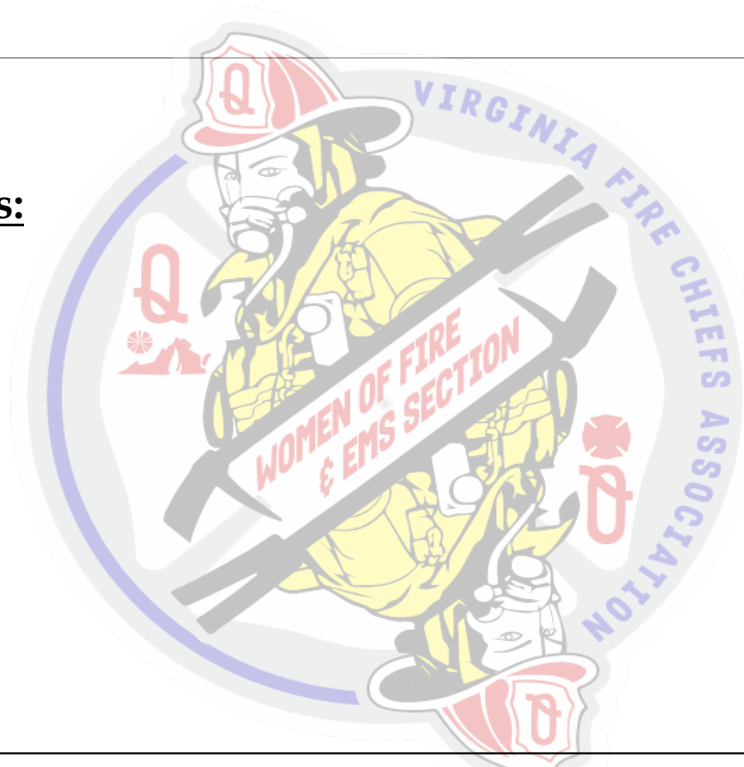
Women of Fire & EMS Section



2025 Communications Plan

Section Officer Huddles: 1500 Hours

- ❖ Tuesday February 4th
- ❖ Tuesday March 4th
- ❖ Tuesday April 8th
- ❖ Tuesday May 6th
- ❖ Tuesday June 3rd
- ❖ Tuesday July 1st
- ❖ Tuesday August 5th
- ❖ Tuesday September 2nd
- ❖ Tuesday October 7th
- ❖ Tuesday November 4th
- ❖ Tuesday December 2nd



Section Meetings: 1400 Hours

- ❖ Tuesday, February 4th
- ❖ Tuesday, May 6th
- ❖ Tuesday, August 5th
- ❖ Tuesday, October 7th
- ❖ Bimonthly Basis-Meeting minutes sent to Section membership

Educational/Networking Opportunities

- ❖ Virginia Fire & Rescue Conference
- ❖ Shakers Forum
- ❖ Women of Fire & EMS Summit
- ❖ 6th Annual VFCF 5K Williamsburg

Advocacy for Women Leading Fire & EMS in Virginia

Women of Fire & EMS Section

Mission- The mission of the Women of Fire-EMS Section of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. is to:

- Provide a forum for those advocating for issues related to women, diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in Fire-EMS.
- Provide a forum for discussion of topics of mutual concern.
- Provide networking opportunities for women and those advocating for diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in Fire-EMS in the Commonwealth.
- Provide opportunities for education, mentorship and training.

Vision- Working together, the Women of Fire-EMS Section will be an integral and dynamic part of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. and a recognized resource and model for those working to advocate and increase opportunities for diversity in fire and emergency service and the communities we serve.

Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

COMPANY OFFICERS SECTION

SECTION CHAIR: MICHAEL HIRSH

- ❖ Position: Operations Lieutenant
- ❖ Department: King George Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 39
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To be part of something bigger than me. To network with others in my profession and learn from others.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

COMPANY OFFICER SECTION VICE-PRESIDENT: PARKER COUGHLIN

- ❖ Position: Captain
- ❖ Department: Spotsylvania County Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Management
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 18
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To network with like-minded individuals who care about making the fire service a better place.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Company Officer Section

Mission- The VFCA Company Officer's Section facilitates mentorship and succession planning for future fire service leaders through education, leadership, and advocacy

Values

Integrity

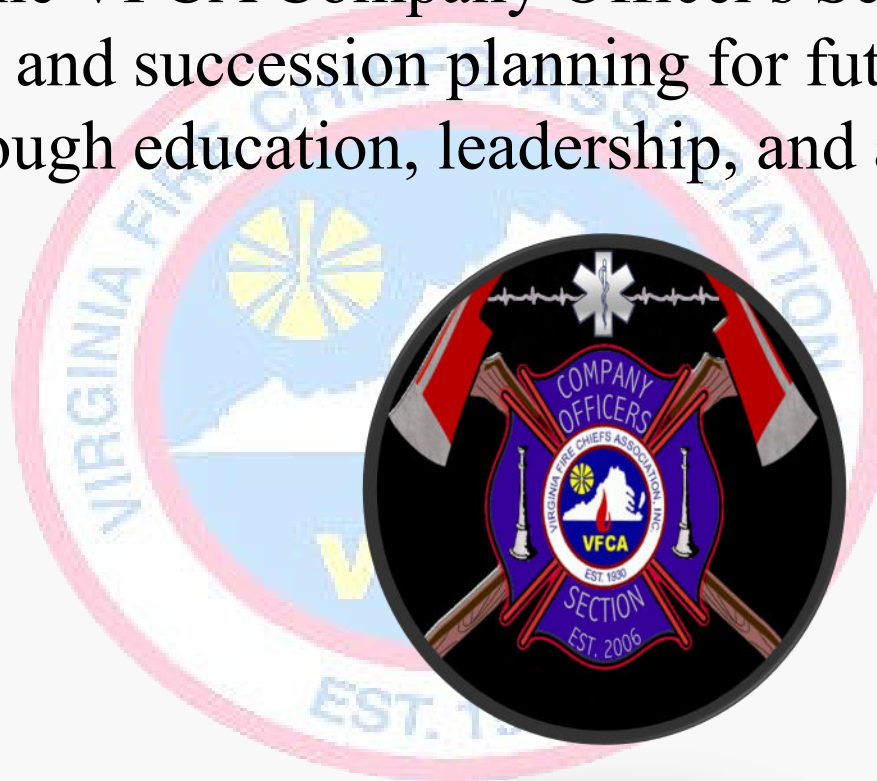
Decisiveness

Education

Advocacy

Leadership

Safety



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

FEDERAL/ MILITARY SECTION CHAIR: TY BURCH

- ❖ Position: Battalion Chief
- ❖ Department: USAG Fort Belvoir Fire & Emergency Services
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 32
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: Networking, Education and build a better fire service.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

FEDERAL/ MILITARY SECTION SECRETARY: TROY ELLIS

- ❖ Position: Battalion Chief
- ❖ Department: Navy Region Mid-Atlantic
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 18
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To better myself within the fire service. To be able to network with those across the state and be able to bring new ideas and opportunities to my department.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Federal / Military Section

Section Leadership

President: Ty Burch, Fort Belvoir Fire & Emergency Services

Secretary: Troy Ellis, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Fire & Emergency Services

Mission- To continuously advance education, leadership, and advocacy throughout federal/military fire and emergency service departments in Virginia.

Vision- To promote the development of a variety of fire service initiatives that have direct impact on federal agencies statewide.

Getting to Know Your VFCA

Federal/Military Section

Accomplishments and Continued Efforts

- ❖ Provide a Federal/Military based on educational day at the Virginia Fire and Rescue Conference
- ❖ Constantly provide publications through VFCA social media and the Commonwealth Chief
- ❖ Tracking, supporting and opposing Federal/Military and state legislations
- ❖ Efforts in statewide Peer Support Network
- ❖ Continued membership growth in order to diversify and encompass all Federal/ Military entities
- ❖ Promotion of networking opportunities to include DOD Summit.

Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, Inc.
Federal/ Military Section

President: Ty Burch
Secretary: Troy Ellis



2025 Communications Plan

Fed/Mil Section Officer Huddles:
19:00 Hours

- ❖ Wednesday February 7, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday March 5, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday April 2, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday May 7, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday June 4, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday July 2, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday August 6, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday September 3, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday October 1, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday November 5, 2025
- ❖ Wednesday December 3, 2025

Fed/Mil Section Quarterly Meetings:

11:00 Hours

- ❖ Tuesday Feb 18, 2025
- ❖ Tuesday May 20, 2025
- ❖ Tuesday September 16, 2025
- ❖ Tuesday December 16, 2025

VFCA Board Meetings
(Section Officers)

- ❖ Bimonthly Basis-Meeting minutes sent to Fed/Mil Section membership

Educational/Networking Opportunities

- ❖ 2026 VFRC-Feb 16-21
- ❖ 11th Annual Chief Summit May 15-16, 2025
- ❖ VFOA & VCOA Programs
- ❖ VFCA 5K March 22, 2025
- ❖ VFCA 2nd Annual Charity Sport Clay Fundraiser
- ❖ VFCA Golf Tournaments



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

LIFE SAFETY/COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION SECTION CHAIR: CHARLES KNOWLES

- ❖ Position: Battalion Chief
- ❖ Department: Chesterfield Fire & EMS
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 35
- ❖ I joined the VFCA because I have a deep passion for Community Risk Reduction, ensuring the public is well educated about specific trends, and a desire to decrease injury and death associated with identified trends.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Life Safety / Community Risk Reduction Section

VFCA Life Safety – Community Risk Reduction Section

- Working with NFPA to Develop a Community Risk Assessment for Virginia, on-going
- Hosting the Sound the Alarm Summit
- CRR/Fire Prevention training at the Virginia Fire Prevention Association Conference
- Working with Virginia stakeholders and Vision 20/20 to accelerate the adoption of best practices at state and local levels through a Statewide Collaboration and Engagement Framework (SCEF), on-going

Getting to Know Your VFCA





Virginia Fire Chief's Association

SEAFCA VIRGINIA DIRECTOR MATT FOX

- ❖ Position: Deputy Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: Fredericksburg Fire Department
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 22
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I joined the VFCA to collaborate with other leaders and make a difference in Virginia's Fire/EMS Service."



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

EMS ADVISORY BOARD REP. BRIAN FRANKEL

- ❖ Position: Assistant Chief
- ❖ Department: Stafford County Fire & Rescue
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 36
- ❖ Background: Currently serves as the Assistant Chief of Operations Brian retired in 2021 from the Prince George's County, MD Fire/EMS Department where he rose through the ranks and retired as the Deputy Chief of Operations.

He currently serves as the VFCA Emergency Medical Services Representative to the Governor's EMS Advisory Board.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE ALLEN BALDWIN

- ❖ Position: Deputy Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: York County
Department of Fire & Life
Safety
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 44
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To
help the Commonwealths Fire
Service and its Leaders be
prepared for today and
tomorrow.



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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

R. CHRISTIAN EUDAILEY

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief (Ret.)
- ❖ Department: Spotsylvania County Fire, Rescue & EM
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 48
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To network with Fire and EMS Professionals at quality educational programs, summits and a first class conference held annually.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

DIONE FACKA

- ❖ Position: Executive Assistant
- ❖ Years of Experience: 20
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: My core value system aligned with the VFCA's mission of uniting our fire and EMS departments through leadership, education, and advocacy. The VFCA gives me the opportunity to serve my community and help get the core message out to advance Virginia's Fire & EMS Service to keep our Commonwealth safe.



Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

BILL SMITH, EDITOR COMMONWEALTH CHIEF

- ❖ Department: VFCA, formerly Hampton Fire/Rescue
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 64
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: I joined the VFCA in 1975 as a young Lieutenant. It was at the 1st ever Mid-Winter Conference. At the time I was looking for training opportunities that were more than basic fire ground training.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

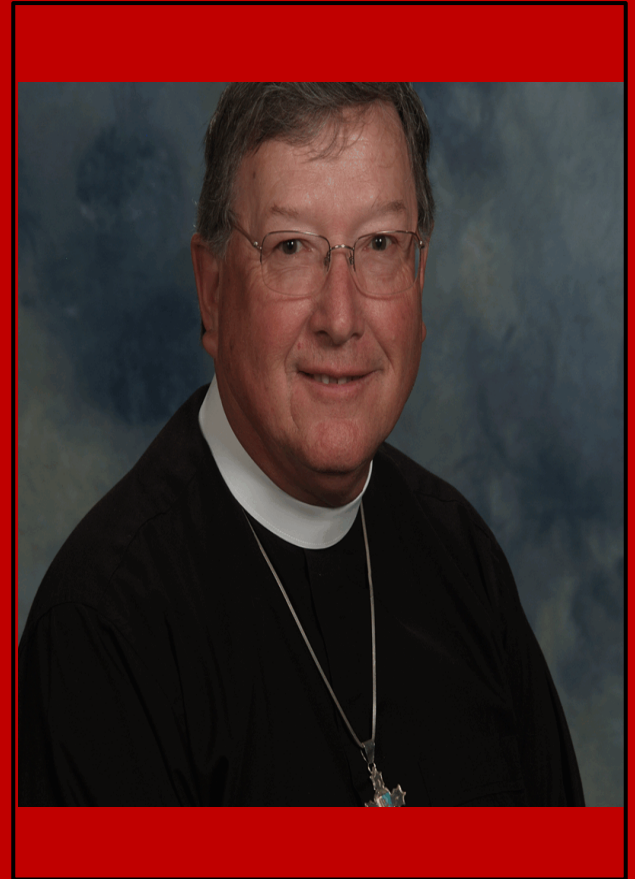


Virginia Fire Chief's Association

JEFFREY SMITH

CHAPLAINS COMMITTEE CHAIR

- ❖ Position: Chair of VFCA Chaplain Committee
- ❖ Department: Mine Run Vol Fire Co., Orange County, & Spotsylvania Fire, Rescue, & Emergency Management
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 16 Years
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To develop a network with Chaplain across VA and promote Fire Department Chaplaincy Programs for training and support.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Chaplain's Committee

Strategic Plan Initiatives

- Training Together
- Fellowship
- Response Coordination
- Self-Care



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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee

The VFCA Professional Development Committee coordinates the educational opportunities offered by the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association to include the annual Virginia Fire Rescue Conference, Summits, Virginia Fire Officer Academy, and Virginia Chief Officer Academy.

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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Chairperson

- Eugene Durham
- Chesterfield County Fire & EMS
- Captain
- 30 Years of Service



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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Vice-Chair

- Timothy McKay
- Chesterfield County Fire & EMS
- Deputy Chief
- 33 Years of Service



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Vice-Chair

- Steven Hall
- Richmond Fire & Emergency Services
- Assistant Chief
- 25 Years of Service



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Vice-Chair

- William Donati
- Powhatan Fire & Rescue
- District Chief (Retired)
- 25 Years of Service



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Member

- Stephen Morris
- Fluvanna County Dept. of
Emergency Services
- Director
- 27 Years of Service



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Member

- Kevin Duck
- Carrsville Fire & Rescue
- Commissioner
- 44 Years of Service



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Member

- Nestor Mangubat
- Portsmouth Fire Rescue & ES
- Fire Chief
- 28 Years of Service



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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee Committee Member

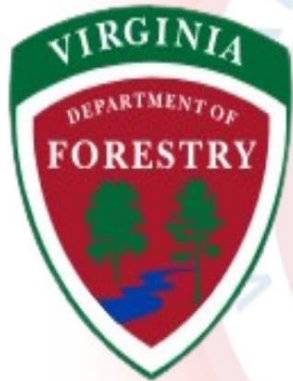
- Wayne Hupman
- Augusta County Fire Rescue
- Lieutenant
- 30 Years of Service



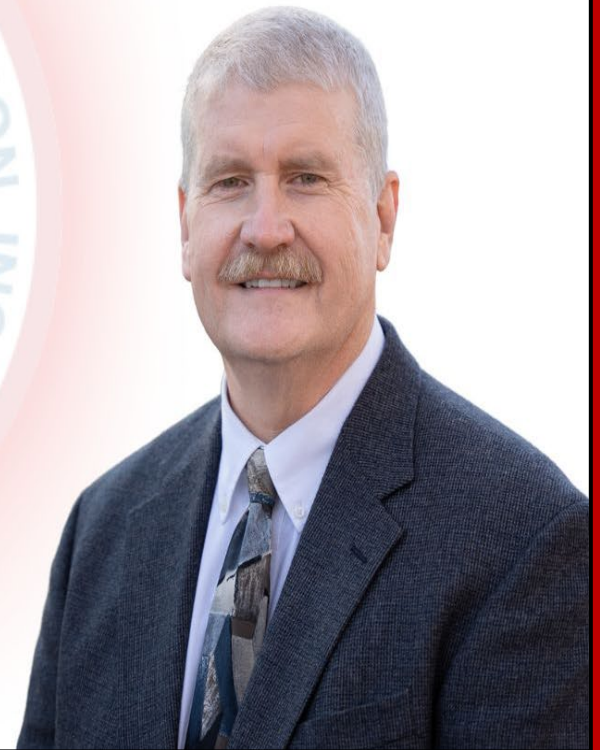
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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

**VFCA Professional Development Committee
State Agency Representative**



John Miller



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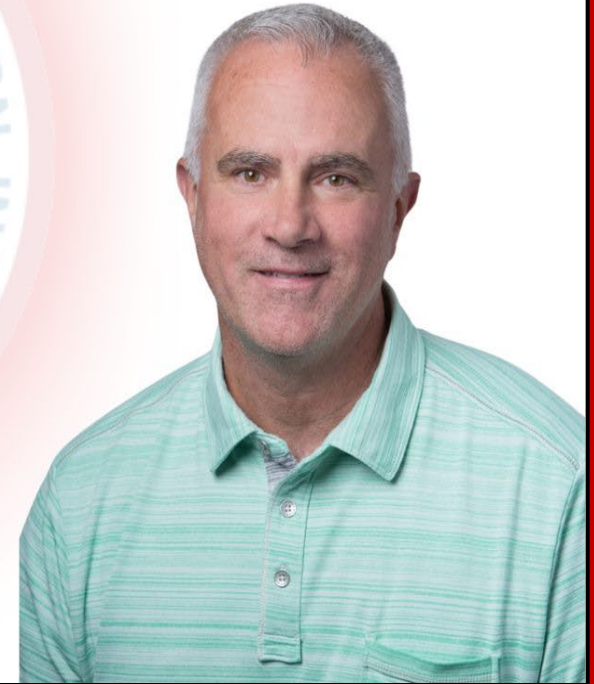
Virginia Fire Chief's Association

VFCA Professional Development Committee State Agency Representative



Virginia Department of
Emergency Management

Joe Scott



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**VFCA Professional Development Committee
State Agency Representative**



Deborah Akers



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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

**VFCA Professional Development Committee
State Agency Representative**



Michael Parris



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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIR-STEVE KOPCYNSKI

- ❖ Position: Fire Chief
- ❖ Department: York County Fire & Life Safety (Retired)
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 50 Years
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: First, I was mentored and encouraged to join by my predecessor in York County (Chief Wallace Robertson—who was also a Past President of the VFCA—then the SFCV) along with other fire service leaders (and SFCV members) from that era. The VFCA has always been recognized as a leader in Virginia's fire service and it has always provided extraordinary networking opportunities. It has consistently offered excellent opportunities for professional development and training. And, finally I have always recognized that the VFCA constantly seeks ways to improve the fire service, ways to better serve our members and has long worked to prepare future fire service leaders.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Safety & Health Committee

Steve Kopczynski - Chair

Strategic Plan Initiatives

- Create a Virginia Fire Service Peer Support Network to work with fire service organizations across the Commonwealth to address firefighter peer support connectivity.
- Educate stakeholders to influence every firefighter to obtain an NFPA 1582 compliant physical assessment on an annual basis.
- Provide our membership with “value” for being a Member.
- Improve our marketing and communication strategy to reach Virginia’s fire service.
- Develop a foundation for health and wellness process including physical fitness and behavioral health throughout VA.

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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

RETIREEE & LIFE MEMBER CHAIR – PAUL MAUGER

- ❖ Position: Chief (Ret'd)
- ❖ Department: Chesterfield Fire & EMS
- ❖ Years in the Fire Service: 45
- ❖ Why I joined the VFCA: To remain engaged with the Commonwealth's Fire Service and give back to those coming behind.



Getting to Know Your VFCA

Retiree & Life Member Committee

Providing an avenue for retired members who have an interest in staying involved and continue serving the VFCA.

- Legislative Advocacy
- Support for mentoring requests
- Sustaining a pool of experienced professionals to assist localities when requests for assistance arise (interview panels, significant incident review, etc.)
- Community connections across the Commonwealth
- Involvement in VFCA/foundation events to promote life / engagements into retirement.
- Providing a pathway for retired members to earn VFCA Life Membership

Maintaining an essential group of individuals connected to an industry they loved and invested a large portion of their lives in.

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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



Deputy Chief Todd Lupton
Loudoun



Chief Tom Labelle
Prince William



Mandy Waybright-Chair
Harrisonburg



Lieutenant Mike Hirsh
King George



Chief Greg Schacht
Augusta



Fire Marshal Matt Haight
Fort Belvoir

Getting to Know Your VFCA

Membership Committee

- Refining organizational effectiveness through *Great People*.
- Connect members through a solid membership base, increasing engagement opportunities for all members.
- Help members develop connections that ensure the VFCA runs smoothly and has opportunities for everyone.
- Spearhead public outreach & social media connections
- Provide valuable input and advocacy for the membership to the Board of Directors.
- Review membership benefits.

Getting to Know Your VFCA



Virginia Fire Chief's Association

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE



Vance Cooper
Virginia Beach



Allen Baldwin
York County



Keith Johnson
Loudoun County



Abbey Johnston
Bedford County



Matt Tobia
City of Harrisonburg



JR Hall
City of Richmond

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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE



John Prillaman
City of Salem



Kevin Good
Fort Belvoir



Greg Wormser
City of Lynchburg



Devon Cabot
Two Capitols Consulting



Maddy Busse
Two Capitols Consulting



Chris Eudailey
VFCA

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Virginia Fire Chief's Association

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE



Jason Wood
Henrico County



Kevin Duck-Chair
Carrsville



Mike Barakey
Suffolk



Ben Ruppert
Hopewell



Brandyn Smith
Danville

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