

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FIRE MARSHALS



## DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



### 2023 Board of Directors

President Desrochers officially announces that with the vacancy of NASFM VP Marshal Brian Geraci, due to his retirement, the Board has voted unanimously to elect the following individuals effective January 1, 2024 to fill the vacant positions until the annual meeting of the principal members in July 2024:

**Chief Brian Taylor - Vice President**

**Chief Sean Toomey - Secretary / Treasure**



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from President Desrochers, the Board of Directors, and all the staff at NASFM. We have so many things to be thankful for including time with our families, friends, and loved ones. Have a blessed holiday, we pray for a safe holiday season for the people we serve. Thank you for being a part of NASFM.

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## **National Association of State Fire Marshals**

### **34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY SYMPOSIUM**

President Michael Desrochers and the Board of Directors of National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) are pleased to announce the 34th Annual Fire Prevention & Safety Symposium will be held in **Kansas City, Missouri on July 29<sup>th</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. The event is hosted by Missouri State Fire Marshal, Tim Bean, and the Missouri State Fire Marshal's Office.

## **The theme for 2024 is “Bringing it all together.”**

NASFM is bringing it all together with plans to present a conference that partners with two other national organizations. First, the **National Carbon Monoxide Awareness Association (NCOAA)** joined us last year to offer a unique opportunity focused on eradicating carbon monoxide poisoning and helping carbon monoxide poisoning survivors recover to lead a happy, healthy, and productive life. The conference was a huge success in building not only an alliance, but also in forming a strategy to mitigate carbon monoxide poisoning. NCOAA continues to be a strategic partner with NASFM and will be partnering again at this conference.

The 2024 event promises to be an even better conference than ever before, now with an additional partner. The **International Fire Marshal Association (IFMA)**, a section of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), represents more than 800 local fire marshals and are joining NASFM to bring it all together. The emerging issues facing both state and local fire marshals are the same, whether it's code enforcement, fire investigations, community risk reduction, or other issues, this is the platform to come together to network.

NASFM has a history of networking with industry leaders, connecting solutions to fire prevention problems, and promoting progressive action to save lives. This is where state and local fire officials, advocates for safety, and industry leaders come together.

Save the Date! Make plans now to join us for the first ever conference with these three national organizations in July 2024. Registration and additional information will be available in January.

**Symposium Registration Coming SOON!**

**[Call for Presentations Announcements is found Here!](#)**



U.S. Fire  
Administration

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National Fire Academy

YOUR National Fire Academy has opened the online admissions system for resident classes we plan to offer on our Emmitsburg, Maryland campus from April through June 2024. Can you please help us get the below message out through your various social media platforms to members of your organizations.

Hope you are all getting ready for the holidays, and I appreciate your assistance – Eriks

Get ready for amazing professional development opportunities! And its FREE!

The application period for National Fire Academy (NFA) classes being offered on our campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland between April and June 2024 is open through January 15, 2024. NFA classes are open to career and volunteer fire and EMS personnel. You do not need to be a sworn or uniformed member of a fire or EMS agency to attend, you need to meet the criteria for who the class is designed for.

If you are interested, please review our wide-variety of course offerings, receive permission from your supervisor to apply, submit and online application, make sure your supervisor approves the online application, and await the student selection process to occur.

NFA classes are offered free of charge, and we provide lodging, travel reimbursement, and world-class training. Your cost is your time and buying a meal ticket on campus. It's YOUR National Fire Academy and YOU belong here!

NFA Admissions <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/admissions/index.html>

NFA Vacancies in Upcoming

Classes <https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/search?forget=true&offeringAvailabilities=2>

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## **DID YOU KNOW... Structure Fires & Hot Work – A New NFPA Research Report**

By NAFED

Nearly 3,400 structure fires a year were sparked by “hot work” hazards over a recent five-year period, according to a new report released by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

NFPA Researchers analyzed data from 2017- 2023 on fires that involved codes a variety of areas related to industrial equipment to shop tools including:

- Welding Torches
- Cutting Torches
- Burners
- Power Nail Guns, Staplers, or Stud Drivers
- Soldering Equipment
- Tar Pot or Tar Kettles

These fires resulted in an estimated yearly average of 19 civilian deaths, 120 civilian injuries, and \$292 million dollars in direct property damage. More than half of the hot work (54%) occurred in or on properties such as hotels or commercial buildings (i.e., non-home). More than three quarters of the buildings burned were occupied.

Welding torches, as one would expect, were the most common type of equipment involved in fires related to hot work. For both homes and non-

homes, the leading factor(s) contributing to ignition were cutting or welding too close to combustible material or heat courses too close to combustibles, according to NFPA Researchers.

NFPA 51B, Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting and Other Hot Work and NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers are two invaluable resource tools to aid in the determination of proper fire protection schemes.

Download the full report [HERE!](#)



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## NASFM Monthly Leadership Exchange

***Principle Member Benefit:*** President Desrochers and the Board of Directors are proud to host this monthly opportunity for principal, associate, and life members to come together in a virtual environment to exchange educational and situational information.

Each month will consist of an educational presentation of interest and followed by an open discussion by any attendee. The calls are kept under a strict 60 minutes of duration.

**The Next Virtual Call is December 21, 2023 @ 3pm Eastern**

Please mark your calendars and watch for a meeting invite from Executive [Director Butch Browning](#). If you are a Principle Member and not receiving the invite, please let us know.

# 2024 NASFM Symposium

*Again....Mark your calendars and plan now! See you in Kansas City, July 29-31, 2024 at the Kansas City Downtown Marriott.*

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## Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI)

### Legislative Update

**Save the Date!** CFSI 34th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Symposium and Dinner will take place April 24-25, 2024 at the Washington Hilton.

Tell CFSI how AFG and SAFER and/or USFA have meaningfully affected your work in the fire and emergency services, the work of your department, and/or the safety of your community, so we can share these stories with Congress.

[Form Link Here](#)

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