



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of a Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, July 10, 2025

FOLLOWING A PRESENTATION BY THE NHIAC, MEMBERS MET IN SESSION.

Called to order at 0903 hours by Chief Watkins.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was requested for departed members.

Welcome from Host: Director Mark Wholey welcomed everyone to the Academy. He also expressed his gratitude for the support and shared his vision for the future of the Academy.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS. Members introduced themselves and listed where they were from.

Special Guests: Congresswoman Maggie Goodlander and also Sara Hennessey from Senator Maggie Hassan's office were in attendance. They both offered greetings and expressed support for our mission and pledged to be available when needed.

Minutes: A MOTION (S. Buxton/Sitar) to approve the minutes of the June meeting, carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: A MOTION (J. Chamberlain/Murray) to approve the May and June reports carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Chief Meaghan Frike of Brookline, Dep. Chief Deane Navaroli of Hollis and Dep. Chief Andrew Stevens of Claremont have been approved for membership.

Life Membership: Chief Matthew Conley has been approved for Life Membership by the board of directors.

President's Report: (Watkins) –

Committed to training, educating and certifying emergency and community responders to protect the citizens and visitors of New Hampshire

- Chief Watkins reported on his meeting with the “Five Families.” He brought up the CPAT concerns on the vests from Chief Yanuzzi. He will also speak with Chief Jones to see if he can affect a change at the national level.
- He attended a meeting on School Safety mapping 7/7. They hope to apply this statewide.
- The Commission to Study the Effects of PTSD will be Friday, 7/11
- Marshal Toomey and he will be meeting on Single stairs legislation 7/21.
- He and ED Lemire will be meeting with Governor Ayotte on 7/28

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- The August 6 BOD meeting will be in Bristol at the new fire station at 0830, and the monthly meeting will be on the 14 at the Town and Country Inn in Gorham. The seminar will be presented by Commissioner John Steere of Nashua. Members attending that wish to stay the night will receive a reduced rate at the Inn.
- The September 10 BOD meeting and the September 11 Association meeting will both be virtual.
- We advertised the vacancy on the FST Commission. Three candidates applied. Chief Chad Miller of Littleton was chosen to be recommended. We were notified Tuesday that his name was to be brought to the Council yesterday.
- The October 9 Association meeting will be here at the Academy for breakfast.
- The November 13 meeting will be virtual.
- The December 11 meeting will be hosted by Nashua at the Nashua Country Club.
- Ad book proceeds to date: Total: \$22,265.50 ; Vendor: \$15,585.50; Assn: \$6,679.50.

1st Vice President Report (LaRoche) – No report

Government Relations – (Schmidt) –

Adam noted (with a little smile) that the Legislature is adjourned. He has shared the details of the retirement bill and other bills of importance to be distributed to the membership.

2nd Vice President Report (D. Chamberlain) – No report

Sgt. At Arms (Fraitzl) – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (ED Lemire) – 3 applications have been received and in process.

Division Reports

Fire Marshal: (Marshal Toomey)

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel:

We are recruiting for a part-time Hazardous Materials Coordinator. We will be posting a full-time Fire Investigator soon. We have submitted hiring waiver requests for a full-time Hazardous Materials Coordinator, two full-time Fire Protection Specialists, and a full-time Building Inspector.

Anna Glover joins our team as an Outreach & Education Specialist effective July 25th.

The State Electrical and Mechanical Inspectors transfer from the Office of Professional Licensure & Certification (OPLC) to the State Fire Marshal's Office on July 11th. These inspectors will join our Bureau of Building Safety & Construction.

Legislation:

The Legislative Session has wrapped up. The following are highlights of a few of the priority bills we were watching:

HB 428-L Prohibiting municipal amendments to the state building code
Bill further limits authority of municipalities to amend the state building code.
Passed – Conference report adopted

SB 95 Relative to youth recreation camp cabins and the state building and fire codes
Bill prohibits automatic sprinkler systems for youth summer camp cabins/bunkhouses. Bill allows new structures to be treated per the applicable existing chapter in the Life Safety Code.
Sen. Pearl Moved to Concur with the House Amendment.
Enrolled

SB 188-FN Allowing independent permitting and inspections, and allowing local governments to authorize licensed engineers and architects to perform building code inspections
Bill expands third party inspections for building code inspections. This excludes the state fire code.
Senate concurs with House Amendment

SB 282 Relative to stairway requirements in certain residential buildings
Bill allows single stairs for means of egress for residential buildings up to 6 stories.
Bill was amended in the Senate to allow 4 story buildings in the building code to align with current fire code.
Senate concurs with House Amendment

Board of Fire Control:

Committed to training, educating and certifying emergency and community responders to protect the citizens and visitors of New Hampshire

The next Board of Fire Control meeting will be held on September 7, 2025, at 1:00 pm.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In June, we received 16 incident notifications resulting in 12 scene responses. The Bureau of Investigations currently has 12 open arson or suspected arson investigations.

New cases (synopsis of some of our cases are listed below):

- On June 2, 2025, investigators responded to Northwood to assist with a structure fire. The fire most likely originated from improper disposal of smoking materials which led to an accidental fire.
- On June 2, 2025, investigators responded to Chichester to assist with a structure fire. The fire originated while occupants were cooking, resulting in an accidental fire.
- On June 10, 2025, investigators responded to Claremont to assist with a fire investigation. The investigation determined that the fire was incendiary. Investigators obtained a search warrant and assisted the Claremont Police with the criminal investigation. The suspect has been identified and arrested.
- On June 11, 2025, investigators assisted Nashua Fire Marshals with a fire with burn injuries. The patient was transferred to Massachusetts for further care but is expected to recover. The investigation into the circumstances surrounding this fire is ongoing.
- On June 12, 2025, investigators responded to Campton to assist with a structure fire. While the cause of the fire remains under investigation, no criminal indicators have been identified at this time.
- On June 20, 2025, investigators responded to Epsom to assist with a fire investigation with injury. The origin of the fire was in the laundry room. The cause of the fire remains under investigation; however, no criminal indicators have been identified.
- On June 23, 2025, investigators responded to Hillsborough to assist with a fire investigation of a structure. While the cause of the fire remains under investigation, no criminal indicators have been identified at this time.
- On June 25, 2025, an investigator and a K9 responded to Sutton to assist with an investigation into several small fires within a historic building. The investigation determined that the fire was incendiary. Investigators assisted the Sutton Police with the criminal investigation. The suspect has been identified, and criminal charges will be forthcoming.
- On June 29, 2025, investigators responded to Littleton to assist with a structure fire. The fire originated in a storage area of the lumber business and then spread throughout, causing significant damage. The cause of this fire is likely to remain undetermined, as the damage was so significant; however, no indications have been identified that the fire was the result of a criminal act.

Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

- On June 1, investigators responded to a suspected carbon monoxide exposure incident in Hollis, which resulted in the death of a 70-year-old male. The circumstances surrounding this case is still under investigation. FMO worked in conjunction with Hollis Police and Fire Department for this investigation
- On June 6, 2025, investigators were notified of a past tense carbon monoxide toxicity fatality by the NH State Medical Examiner's Office of a 43-year-old-male. Investigators completed required follow up working with Pelham Police Department to identify the source of the carbon monoxide exposure. At the completion of the investigation, investigators were able to identify the carbon monoxide source was from a motor vehicle. FMO worked in conjunction with Pelham Police Department, and the New Hampshire State Medical Examiner's Office for this investigation
- On June 22, 2025, investigators and a K9 responded to a structure fire in New Ipswich, where a 51-year-old male was subsequently found and confirmed to be deceased in a vehicle on the same property. Further investigation revealed that the deceased appeared to have died from a self-inflicted injury. It is suspected that the deceased intentionally set fire to the home in which he owned. The deceased did not have any injuries resulting from the fire. The cause of the death was ruled to have been suicide. The cause of the fire was undetermined.
- On June 22, 2025, investigators responded to a structure fire in Unity, where a 75-year-old male was found deceased inside the home. The cause of the death resulted from carbon monoxide poisoning as a result of the fire. The exact circumstances surrounding the events that led up to the fire are unknown, but investigators identified several potential accidental ignition sources. Investigators did not identify evidence that suggested that this fire was criminal in nature.

Youth Firesetter:

- Two YFS referrals were received in the month of June.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed the following permits in the month of June:

- Building: 19
- Electrical: 19
- Plumbing: 13
- Fuel Gas: 4
- Mechanical: 6
- Fire Protection: 4
- Fire Alarm: 2

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 7 educational and 6 healthcare plan reviews, completed 354 inspections and 288 technical consults in the month of June.

Variance Requests:

We processed 2 variance requests in the month of June.

Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program

The Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program conducted the following in the month of June:

- Proximate Licenses Issued: 0
- Display Certificate of Competency Issued: 0
- Consumer Fireworks Retail Store Licenses Issued: 3
- Explosive Magazine Inspections: 0
- Proximate Audience Inspections: 2
- Technical Assistance: 1

Modular Building Program

The Modular Building Program conducted the following in the month of June:

- Inspections: 15
- Audits of Manufacturers: 0
- Audits of Educational Facilities: 0
- Labels Issued to Manufacturers: 180
- Units Shipped to New Hampshire: 29

Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety

The Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety section conducted the following in the month of June:

- Amusement Registrations: 70
- Amusement Inspections: 120
- Amusement Incidents: 0
- Tramway Registrations: 3
- Tramway Inspections: 3
- Tramway Incidents: 0

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

Hazmat has a new email! You can contact us at: hazmat@dos.nh.gov

In the month of June, our Hazardous Materials Coordinator and Deputy Fire Marshal Booth attended the IAFC Hazardous Materials Conference in Baltimore. The Hazardous Materials Coordinator also attended a hazardous materials strategy and tactics class in Concord.

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator retired at the end of the month after five and a half years with us and a total of 48 years in the fire service. He will remain available on a very limited basis until we fill either the full time or part time hazardous materials coordinator position. Until those positions are filled, the office is not able to offer PEAC Software training.

Hazardous Materials response, coordination and consultation is available through the on-call FMO supervisor.

Electric Vehicles and Lithium-Ion Batteries

The council to study the impacts of electric vehicles, e-mobility devices, and the associated lithium-ion batteries hazards for first responder response, the environment, building and fire codes, life safety, and property protection continues its work. The interim report of the council was submitted to the Governor and General Court on November 1, 2024. A meeting was held on April 14th at 1:00 pm.

Have an EV or lithium-ion battery incident to report? Please fill out this form: [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) and Battery Incident Reporting \(office.com\)](#)

Incident Reporting:

We continue to monitor the development of the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS). New Hampshire is scheduled for onboarding in October 2025. Find more information and resources at [National Emergency Response Information System \(NERIS\) \(fema.gov\)](#).

Thank you to the departments who responded to our recent survey in preparation of NERIS! We've had about 70% of departments respond to the survey as of today. Reach out to NHFIRS Section if you aren't sure whether your agency has responded. If you have not completed it, please do so quickly.

Link to our NERIS

Survey: <https://forms.office.com/g/WBLdY7E8zc?origin=lprLink>

Key NERIS Resources:

- [User References](#)
- [NERIS Onboarding Checklist and Guide](#)
- Visit [our website](#) for more NERIS support and updates.
- NHFIRS Incident Reporting Newsletter (quarterly)

We would like to remind all fire departments that if you experience a fatal fire with civilian injuries in your community, you will need to complete the Civilian Casualty module for your incident report in addition to calling our office for investigative assistance.

Please reach out to our NHFIRS team for any incident reporting questions at nhfirs@dos.nh.gov and have your NFIRS/NERIS contact person sign-up for the NHFIRS Newsletter by sending an email to FMO@dos.nh.gov.

Community Risk Reduction (CRR):

Falls are not a natural part of aging, yet NHFIRS shows falls/lift assists are consistently a top service call from fire departments across New Hampshire.

The [NFPA Steps to Safety™ Prevent Fire and Falls at Home](#) program pairs fire and EMS professionals with community partners to educate older adults about home fire and fall safety through group presentations, home visits, and the creation of a local resource network. The approach is one that promotes independence, collaboration, engagement, and empowerment.

Kelly Ransdell, Director of NFPA Public Education, is coming to Concord for a FREE full-day, in-person training. This is a FREE education opportunity with free program materials to use in your communities. More details to come!

Location:

Stephen E. Merrill Building (DMV Auditorium)

23 Hazen Drive

Concord, NH 03305

Doors open at 8:30am.

Register today to reserve your spot: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/STSNH2025>

Sign-up for our newsletter, Risk Reduction Quarterly by sending us a note

at fmo@dos.nh.gov or find newsletters on our

website: <https://www.firemarshal.dos.nh.gov/news-events/newsletters>

Outreach Events:

This June the NHSFMO attended eight public outreach events. We visited schools in Merrimack and Warner, touching on the importance of working smoke alarms and fire prevention strategies. Our public education team was impressed by the Dover Fire Department's live theater presentation for the 25th Annual Children's Fire Safety Festival. This unique program went above and beyond! Elementary schools from the area went on a field trip to Dover High School to enjoy this interactive, musical experience showcasing many important topics in fire safety. Well done, Dover Fire!

Our K-9 teams demonstrated how they investigate the origin of a fire to the Governor's new interns and cadets at the Police Academy. We participated in the Lancaster

Emergency Services Day, where families practiced elements of an escape plan, such as feeling if the door is warm, getting low while exiting, and using a second exit. We collaborated with the Northeast Carbon Monoxide Alliance to film their installation of a sign on Newfound Lake in Bristol. The sign tells the story of a young Ohio boy, who tragically passed away from carbon monoxide poisoning while boating with his family. Former NH State Fire Marshal, Bill Degnan, and Bristol Fire Chief LaRoche spoke about the importance of carbon monoxide awareness and general boating safety. Although an unlikely event, CO poisoning is possible in open air boating.

We were also honored to speak at the American Red Cross of Northern New England's Volunteer Awards and Annual Meeting, about how our partnership is making communities safer. The Red Cross has been a key partner during our CO Poisoning Prevention Grant Program from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. By the end of June, the NHSFMO had installed CO alarms in 100+ schools and the Red Cross teams installed CO alarms in 180+ homes! "Working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms – save lives!"

Interested in having the NHSFMO join an event in your community? Please reach out to us as early as possible so we can make every effort to attend your event. We also have [resources and equipment](#) for fire departments to borrow. Send your request to us at FMOpublicEducation@dos.nh.gov.

Public Education:

Our public education theme for July is "Fireworks Safety." The safest way to enjoy fireworks is by attending a [public display](#) sponsored by a local community or other organization. These displays are set up and shown by trained, licensed professional pyrotechnicians and inspected by public safety officials to ensure they meet all safety standards. [A list of 2025 public displays](#) has been compiled by WMUR-TV.

Anyone who chooses to celebrate with permissible fireworks, which are legal consumer devices sold in [licensed retail stores](#), should consider following the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office's fireworks safety guidelines to protect themselves, their family and their property. Additionally, fireworks buyers should consult their local fire department to check for any [specific restrictions or guidelines](#).

For those who are legally able to purchase and use fireworks products where they are allowed, the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office recommends following three important safety guidelines: be prepared, be safe and be responsible.

The New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office's [Public Service Announcement \(PSA\)](#) on fireworks safety can be found on [Facebook](#) and the [agency's website](#). Additional information can also be found on the [Fireworks FAQ page](#).

You can find our July 1st news release at: [Celebrate The Fourth Of July With Fireworks Safely And Legally | NH Division of Fire Safety](#)

Training Opportunities:

If you are interested in hosting a future session, or would like to suggest a future training topic, please reach out to us at FMOPublicEducation@dos.nh.gov

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Wholey)

He introduced himself and explained his vision as to how the Academy will be moving forward and adjusting curriculum to meet the needs of the service.

Asst. Director Phillips explained the budget and expounded on the Director's words.

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- On January 22nd, Governor Kelly Ayotte signed an Executive Order instituting a hiring freeze across state government. We will work within the process to identify any positions that are eligible for a waiver under the order.
- The new Division Director, Mark P. Wholey, was appointed by Governor Ayotte and confirmed by the Governor & Executive Council in June. His official start date was June 13th.
- Captain Nicholas Bibeau was promoted to Bureau Chief of Certification & Support.
- We are interviewing for our full-time EMS Compliance Coordinator.
- We are interviewing for our part-time EMS Investigator.
- We have one vacancy for Program Specialist III (Education Technologist) of the Educational Technology section.
- We have two vacancies for our full-time Fire Training Captain.
- We have one vacancy for our full-time Fire Training Instructor position.
- We have one vacancy for our full-time Program Assistant I.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Compliance Specialist.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Ambulance Inspection Coordinator.
- We have vacancies for EMS Exam Coordinators.
- We have vacancies for EMS Vehicle Inspectors.

Grants

- We submitted our application for the 2024 AFG grant and are awaiting to hear on additional information.

Special Projects

- The early detection cancer screening pilot program RFP submission period closed on February 19th. Initial scoring on the technical portions of the proposals was held on March 7th. The Division is currently working through the contract process which will then be submitted to the Governor and Executive Council for consideration.
 - We anticipate this program to begin mid- to late-summer 2025.
 - We are developing a website dedicated to this program where eligible individuals can find information about the program.
- The Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility infrastructure project continues to move forward with completion of the project expected on or before November 2025.
 - Phase II which includes the heated garage and classroom building upgrades is ongoing.
 - Grass seed has been spread, and a fence is going up around the perimeter of the property.
 - The garage foundation has been constructed.
 - Classes and prop usages are being limited for this campus until construction is completed. All other classes will be moved to other facilities in the area.



Aerial view of Raymond S. Burton Training Facility under construction in Bethlehem as of June 2025. Photography credit: Don Himself

- The New Hampshire Emergency Services Explorer Training Academy was on our Campus June 21st through June 28th with 53 Cadets participating.
- We continue to work on our website transition and improvements with NH DoIT. Much of this work is being done offline in preparation of a full transition to the new state web platform.
- The *Law Enforcement Officers, Professional Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Career Development, Recruitment and Retention Program* established in New Hampshire RSA 188-F:70 remains active and available.
 - Details can be found on our website under the Recruitment and Retention link from the homepage.

National Fire Academy

- Courses from the NFA have resumed. As of now, the following NFA courses are available:
 - *Supervising Emergency Medical Services* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 6th & 7th
 - *Decision Making for Initial Company Operations* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, August 9th & 10th
 - *Incident Safety Officer* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 20th & 21st

Legislative/Administrative Rules

- The 2025 legislative session continues. We are monitoring many legislative Bills.
 - Among the monitored bills which passed are HB316, SB133, SB 202, and SB 24, which relate to EMS providers.
- The proposed Trauma Rules are working through the internal DOS process.
- An EMS discipline and other various administrative rule changes proposal has been submitted to JLCAR. This proposed change is supported by the EMS Coordinating Board and would allow for deceased providers names to be removed the public listing, along with other various changes to the ruleset.
- Administrative Rules to make the full transition to ETA's and sunset the former process have been developed and are working through the internal DOS process for submission to JLCAR.

Outreach

- Staff members continue to attend various stakeholder and mutual aid group meetings and make department visits.

Mental Health & Resiliency

- Crisis Intervention Team Training – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, July 14th
- We continue our work in partnership with the Police Academy to develop a more comprehensive program for PTSD training utilizing experts from this field in development of the curriculum and delivery.

Curriculum

Firefighter

- The visiting committee met on June 18th to review the Forcible Entry and Portable Extinguishers modules of FFI.
- The next meeting will be on July 16th to review the Search & Rescue and Ladders modules.

Fire Inspector

- The visiting committee met on June 11th to review the certification testing specifications for the First Responder Inspector curriculum.
- The next meeting will be on July 9th to review the content outline and certification testing specifications for the Fire Inspector curriculum.
- Initial test bank item validation has begun for the Fire Inspector test bank.

Airport Firefighter

- Initial test bank item validation has begun for the AFF test bank.

Driver-Operator

- The application for Driver-Operator Visiting Committee is open now! If you are interested in participating in the curriculum development process, please submit an application. <https://nhfa-ems.com/visiting-committee-membership-request-form/>

Future Program Development

- *EMS in the Warm Zone*. Captain Robblee and Maria Varanka are overseeing an update to the Awareness, Operations, and RTF Concepts levels of EMS in the Warm Zone program. This update seeks to align the program with the newest versions of NFPA 3000 and the Committee on Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (C-TECC) guidelines for First Responders with a Duty to Act.
- *Interfacility Transfer*. Captain Robblee and Rachel Larry will be overseeing an EMS Visiting Committee to revise the IFT and PIFT training programs. An application for this curriculum development committee is open now. If you are interested in participating in the curriculum development process, please submit an application. <https://nhfa-ems.com/visiting-committee-membership-request-form/>

- *Fire Officer (I & II)*. The new NFPA standards for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications (NFPA 1020) were released at the beginning of the year. This month, Captain Burns and Program Coordinator Meyer will begin work in preparation for a visiting committee later this year.
- *Fire and Emergency Services Instructor (I, II, & III)*. The new NFPA standards for Instructor professional qualifications (NFPA 1020) were released at the beginning of the year. This month, Chief Bibeau and Program Coordinator Field will begin work in preparation for a visiting committee early next year.

Accreditation

- The five-year process of re-accreditation through The Pro Board is underway. This process involves completing a comprehensive self-assessment of the Division's policies and certification exam practices, and a resubmission of all assessment instruments used by the Division for accredited certification exams.
- The reaccreditation application has been submitted, reviewed by the technical analyst, and recommended for review by The Pro Board's Committee on Accreditation.
- The re-accreditation process will culminate in a site visit from Pro Board representatives. The site visit team will review the Division's documentation, make recommendations for improvement, and determine the Division's accreditation for five more years.



➤ Bureau of Firefighter Training

Courses/Programs

- Firefighter I & II
 - Rumney (FF I) – August 19th
 - Moultonborough (FF II) – August 26th
 - Stratham (FF I & II) – September 3rd
- Technical Rescue
 - Swiftwater Rescue Awareness – Berlin – July 16th
 - Swiftwater Rescue Level I – Gorham – July 16th
 - Swiftwater Rescue Level I – Berlin – July 17th
- Driver Operator
 - Milford – September 16th

- Newbury – September 23rd
 - Conway – October 7th
 - All inquiries for these programs should be directed to Captain Paul Ingersoll at paul.h.ingersoll@dos.nh.gov
- Hazardous Materials
 - Hazardous Materials Awareness is available at <https://www.nhfaemslearning.org/login/index.php>
- Module Deliveries
 - Hazardous Materials Operations with PPE and Product Control – Raymond S. Burton Training Facility – Bethlehem, August 18th
- Airport Rescue Firefighting
 - ARFF – Live Fire Recertifications restart in September
 - Richard Flynn campus – September 29th
- “On My Time” Program
 - We continue to offer support and guidance to many departments participating in this program.
- Electric Vehicle Training Resources
 - US Department of Energy, Alternate Fuels Data Center, EV Safety Training Resources for First and Second Responders: <https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-responders>
 - NFPA training for Alternative Fuel Vehicles: <https://www.nfpa.org/for-professionals/training-for-me/buy-alternative-fuel-vehicles-training>
 - NFPA FIRST Training Application: <https://info.vectorsolutions.com/vs-fr-nfpa-new-energy-systems-fire-simulator-training>
 - Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Field Familiarization Guide: <https://derstfg.org/>

Testing

- Monthly Testing was completed in June for the NFPA 1001, 1002 and 1003 testing processes which includes administering the written and practical exams.
 - Monthly testing is the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Burton campus monthly testing is only in March, June, September and December on the Wednesday after the Flynn campus exam date. Submissions must be entered by the last day of the month before the month you wish to test.

- The bureau has been training with the Bureau of Certification and Support regarding the new written exam testing that is now done with iPads.

Apparatus/Equipment

- Engine One has been out of service for repair for most of the month of June. This was an oil pressure issue that has been corrected, and this apparatus will be back in service in July.
- Utility Five has been removed from service and the search for a suitable replacement is underway.
- All other apparatus and Fleet Vehicles are in service.

Facilities, Prop Usage and Projects

- The Concord Fire Department did live fire training in the “A” Building on June 4th.
- The Swanzey Fire Department donated their prop usage to the Keene High School FFI program so they could complete their Fire Suppression module in the “B” Building and with the Car prop on June 6th.
- The Lebanon and Hanover, NH, Fire Departments along with the Hartford, VT, Fire Department used our “B” Building for live fire training June 10th through June 13th.
- Drillyard clean up continues as needed.
- The roof prop at “J” Building had extensive damage from use and weather. The rafters and sheathing were replaced with new roof shingles.
- Work continues on the Fire Investigator boxes to prepare them for the September class.
- KFT is troubleshooting electrical problems with “B” Building.
- Parts have been ordered for the repair of two hydrants that have been out of service.

Bureau of Certification and Support

Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
 - *Instructor I* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord – May 7th
 - *Instructor II* – Virtual October 21st

- *Instructor III* – Virtual April 9th
- Instructor Professional Development
 - *Interpreting EMS Education Standards* – Virtual, July 22nd, and Richard Flynn campus, July 24th
 - *Troubleshooting Student Performance with Universal Design for Learning* – Virtual, September 23rd, and Richard Flynn campus, September 25th
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
 - *Fire Officer I* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 8th
 - *Fire Officer I* – Milford Fire Department – Milford, October 4th
 - *Fire Officer II* – Virtual October 15th
- Fire Inspector Programs
 - *Fire Inspector I* – New Hampton Fire Department – New Hampton, September 25th
- Fire Investigator – Richard Flynn campus – August 21st
- National Fire Academy
 - *Decision Making for Initial Company Operations* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, August 9th & 10th
 - *Supervising Emergency Medical Services* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 6th & 7th
 - *Incident Safety Officer* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 20th & 21st

Education Technology

- Staff are working with the Firefighter I Visiting Committee and will continue to attend their meetings.
- The previous Online Learning environment is sunseting and final content backups are underway.
- Safe Pediatric Transport is online and available for students.
- FFI Curriculum updates:
 - Fire Behavior interactions production is underway.
 - PPE/SCBA video production will begin soon.
- The new stroke program is complete, pending the Subject Matter Expert review.
- Video interviews for the Cancer Screening Initiative are underway.

- Renovations to Classrooms 1 and 2 are underway, including a new screen in Classroom 2.
- The new State website is in the final stages of development and Ed Tech is working with DoIT on the final details. The site includes:
 - A more comprehensive schedule and catalog descriptions that students and should find more informative and better to use.
 - A more robust curriculum section.

Instructors

- The State Fire Instructor renewal application window closed on June 30, 2025.
 - 45 Instructors lapsed their licenses.
- The instructor cadre passed their audit requirements. All State Fire Instructors who were randomly audited received a notification of their audit and successful completion.
- New State Fire Instructor applications are available on RespondNH.
- The Fire Training Captains have been actively training and endorsing Instructors and Program Assistants in numerous classes and prop operations.
- The Division is always looking for highly motivated team members to become instructors. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, please contact Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips at Jeffrey.r.phillips@dos.nh.gov or 603-223-4213.

CPAT

- There are six CPAT dates in 2025. We restructured the schedule of these exams to better span the entire year to make this test more aligned with department hiring needs.
 - June 17th – Laconia – Merrill Fay Ice Arena
 - Attended: 45
 - Passed: 31
 - August 12th – Laconia – Merrill Fay Ice Arena
 - October 27th – Nashua - NH National Guard Recruiting Office
 - November 24th – Nashua - NH National Guard Recruiting Office
- Staff are beginning to develop an electronic scoring of CPAT exams using RespondNH.

- Department member assistance is needed for CPAT on testing days. Please confirm available personnel to assist with PC Nick Poulin at Nicholas.a.poulin@dos.nh.gov prior to the test date to assist in planning.



- Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

Boards and Commissions

- The Privacy Committee meeting on June 25th was canceled.
- The Medical Control Board will meet on July 17th at 0930.
- The Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board will meet on July 17th at 1300.
- The Trauma Medical Review Committee will meet on August 20th at 0930.

Operations

- With final adoption of the Educational Training Agency (ETA) ruleset as of April 30, 2024, the Administrative Packet for application can be found at on the Division website and Resource Center.
 - Initial ETA relicensing site visits have begun.
 - There are currently 16 licensed ETAs with 6 more in the process of being licensed.
- The EMS Simulation Training Program held 3 programs in June.
- There are currently 310 licensed EMS Units and 6,635 EMS Providers.
- 19 ambulance, 2 helicopter, and 9 wheelchair van inspections were conducted in June.
- Background checks are currently averaging 2.7 days for new applicants for licensure.
- EMS Psychomotor Exams
 - 3 BLS exams were held in June.

Courses/Programs

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR): Fall 2025 EMR course is now open for enrollment, September 6th.
- EMS Continuing Education and Simulation Education
 - *Field Triage: Mass Casualty Incidents* – Virtual, July 17th

- *IFT and PIFT: Not Taxi Work* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, August 6th, and Virtual, August 21st
- *Prehospital Obstetric and Neonatal Care (Simulation)* – Woodsville Ambulance – Woodsville, August 7th
- *Adult and Pediatric Intoxicant/Irritant Exposures (Simulation)* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 10th
- *Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)* – Keene – September 13th
- *EMS Response to Clandestine Drug Labs* – Virtual, September 18th
- *Service Dogs on Scene: EMS Protocols, Safety, and Support* – Assistance Canine Training Services (ACTS) Training Center – Center Conway, September 13th
- *Toppled Tots: A Pediatric Trauma Primer* – Concord, October 1st, and Virtual, October 16th
- EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness, Operations and Rescue Task Force Concepts
 - The Awareness and Operations courses are available free to students on our online training platform.
 - The RTF Concepts class is a half-day in-person training that is also available. Grant funding opportunities are available.
 - We are developing the 2025 schedule for six open enrollment RTF courses.
 - If anyone is looking for this program, please contact Shawn Croteau at Shawn.A.Croteau@dos.nh.gov

Clinical Systems

- We continue our outreach and support to agencies for inter-facility transfers and mobile integrated health programs.
- EMS Protocols Version 9.2 Mid Cycle Rollout is currently under the public comment period, with a public hearing held on June 18 and comments accepted through July 14, 2025. This included a modification to protocol 8.1 Baby Safe Haven of the NH Patient Care Protocols to comply with the revised requirements of RSA 132-A and He-C 6429.
- EMS Protocols Version 10.0 development has been postponed, pending the 9.3 update.
- All EMS Bulletins can be found on our website at: <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/bulletins/index.html>

Data Management

- NHESR
 - If you would like to start using the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), please fill out the form available at <https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/>.
 - 114 fire departments are utilizing the system for incident reporting.
 - Anyone interested in the system can contact nhesr@dos.nh.gov by email, submit a ticket at <https://nhfa-ems.com/support/>, or call 603-223-4200 and ask for a member of the data team to reach us.
- RespondNH
 - The Division continues to expand the capabilities of the RespondNH system. As we are able to utilize this system and analyze more data it is important to have department roster information updated and current. Each department has the full capability to manage their own roster by adding new staff and removing those that may have left. Departments can do this at any time. For State level reporting information, fill out your roster information to include their status (career, call, or volunteer) and the duties they provide, such as EMS care and/or fire suppression.
- EMS Instructor Initial/Reinstatement applications are available online for licensing.
- EMS Instructor Renewal applications are available online.
- The monthly EMS and Fire Reporting Users groups have restarted.
- We are working with EMS agencies using 3rd party ePCR software to improve their reporting completeness and overall data quality.

Compliance

- There are currently 20 active investigations and ongoing cases.
- All compliance related inquiries should be directed to Bureau Chief Romanello.
- The Division has transitioned to a new public look-up page in RespondNH. This will allow anyone to search an individual and find out if they have any license sanctions against them.

Preparedness and Special Projects

- Staff conducted 10 outreach events for AED consultations and preparedness last month.
- Staff continue to support MIH and IFT programs and outreach. There are 15 current MIH programs in the state.

- All MIH programs are integrated with the ImageTrend – CP Module.
- Laconia Fire has proposed a program known as the Community Paramedicine Program (CPP) by the Partnership for Public Health, Inc. (PPH) to enhance healthcare delivery and accessibility in Laconia, NH, and surrounding towns. The program is designed to reduce unnecessary hospital admissions and emergency department visits.
- The ARPA funds for the WorkInvest Program have officially ended as of June 30, with all funds having been allocated and expended by the deadline.

Professional Development Committee _ () – No report

Fire Standards and Training Commission – (Chief Clark) –

The Commission last met on May 8th with a full agenda. It has not met since the June Report. Ongoing Issues:

1. The seating of the Visiting Committee for Driver Operator.
2. The Visiting Committee reviewing the Firefighter I and II curriculum continues to meet monthly. Their minutes are available online and Fire Chiefs are well represented with 4 of the 7 seats being Chiefs. If you have concerns or comments concerning the work of the Visiting Committee or Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2, contact one of the Chiefs on the committee:
 - a) Chief Chad Miller – Littleton
 - b) Chief Jeff Currier – Bartlett
 - c) Chief Dana Cullen – Center Ossipee
 - d) Chief Tom Blanchette - Loudon
3. Work on Phase 2 at the Burton Fire & EMS Academy continues at a good pace. Due to the extent of construction, training will not continue until the work is complete, but training is available off site. The project is expected to be completed in September. A recent visit indicated substantial progress..
4. Next Meeting is September 4, 2025.

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Paquette) – No report

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chiefs E. Thomas/Cathy) – No report

EMS Trauma Medical Review Committee (Dep. Chief Clough) – No report

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Buxton) –

- Federal Funding

- We continue to monitor activity surrounding the passing of Federal Budget Legislation.
- FEMA program funding list attached
- Public Assistance
 - We continue to work with FEMA on existing Disaster Relief efforts.
 - i. Thank you to everyone that has assisted staff with the COVID-19 closeout process.
 - ii. FEMA is working to have the closeout process completed by September 30th.
- Mitigation
 - We continue to work to support the following programs:
 - i. Hazard Mitigation Planning.
 - 1. Plan review and approval remain on pause with the Federal Government. New guidance surrounding mitigation planning has been issued.
- EMPG
 - If you have a potential EMPG project, please reach out to your Stakeholder Liaison for assistance.
- Federal Grant Programs
 - Currently, we do not have a timeline on next year's Federal grant platform.
 - We are working to obtain a period of performance extension from FEMA to provide some continued funding until the notice of funding becomes available.
- Active Shooter Incident Management
 - Working groups continue to meet regarding Incident Management initiatives for Law Enforcement.
 - We are working to develop a one-day seminar for fall, surrounding the Active Shooter initiative. More information to follow as this is developed.
 - We are working to bring C3 Pathways back to NH this fall for 4 train the trainer programs to support our active shooter incident management training. This will be available to both Fire and Law Enforcement partners.
- REP
 - The FY 25 assessment process has started for NextEra Energy.
- ACEPS
 - Governor Ayotte is planning to kick off the ACEPS group in September.
 - The Association will need to work with HSEM to identify a representative for this group.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

| <i>(in millions)</i> | FY25 Enacted | FY26 Request | FY26 House |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Operations & Support | 1,484 | 1,500 | 1,474 |
| Procurement, Construction, and Improvements | 100 | 156 | 158 |
| Federal Assistance | 3,203 | 2,594 | 3,727 |
| State Homeland Security Grant Program | 468 | 351** | 520 |
| <i>Operation Stonegarden</i> | <i>(81)</i> | <i>(140)</i> | <i>90</i> |
| <i>Tribal Homeland Security Grants</i> | <i>(14)</i> | <i>(0)†</i> | <i>15</i> |
| Urban Area Security Initiative | 554 | 416** | 615 |
| Non-Profit Security Grant Program | 275 | 275 | 305 |
| Public Transportation Security Assistance | 95 | 50** | 95 |
| Port Security | 90 | 50** | 100 |
| Assistance to Firefighters (SAFER/AFG) | 648 | 648 | 720 |
| Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) | 320 | 320 | 355 |
| RiskMAP | 281 | 281 | 313 |
| Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants | 11 | 0 | 10 |
| Emergency Food & Shelter | 117 | 0 | 105 |
| Next Generation Warning System | 40 | 0 | 40 |
| Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending^ | 0 | 0 | 170 |
| Alternatives to Detention Case Management (by transfer) | (15) | (0) | (0) |
| Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (by transfer) | (18) | (0) | (0) |
| Shelter and Service Program (by transfer) | (650) | (0) | (0) |
| Training & Exercises | 306 | 204 | 379 |
| <i>Center for Domestic Preparedness</i> | <i>(71)</i> | <i>(72)</i> | <i>(71)</i> |
| <i>Center for Homeland Defense and Security</i> | <i>(16)</i> | <i>(16)</i> | <i>(16)</i> |
| <i>Emergency Management Institute</i> | <i>(32)</i> | <i>(31)</i> | <i>(32)</i> |
| <i>U.S. Fire Academy</i> | <i>(60)</i> | <i>(64)</i> | <i>(60)</i> |
| <i>National Domestic Preparedness Consortium</i> | <i>(91)</i> | <i>(0)</i> | <i>(101)</i> |
| <i>Continuing Training</i> | <i>(14)</i> | <i>(0)</i> | <i>(16)</i> |

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| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>National Exercise Program</i> | <i>(21)</i> | <i>(20)</i> | <i>(21)</i> |
| Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) | 22,510 | 26,474 | 26,474 |
| Base Disaster Relief | 0* | 0* | 0* |
| Disaster Cap Adjustment | (22,510) | (26,474) | (26,474) |
| <i>Rescission of Prior Year Funds</i> | <i>(0)</i> | <i>(0)</i> | <i>(0)</i> |

Commission to study the Incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in

First Responders – (Chief Watkins) – No report

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chief Clark) –

The Board last met on June 24, 2025. The highlights of the meeting are as follows:

1. Overall, the Fire Service fared reasonably well with legislative changes that could have impacted the State Fire Code. The Board will be vigilant for Code changes in the next term.
2. The Board received an update on the EV and Lithium-Ion Battery Council's progress. A report will be issued in November.
3. The Board held discussions concerning the increased Fire/CO deaths. Emphasis continues to be on having working detectors in every residence. New campaigns will start in September prior to the heating season.
4. Updates on the new NERIS reporting system that must be implemented this October. No major issues have yet to be identified.
5. The committee has begun the review process for moving to NFPA 1 and 101 version 2024 as the basis of the State Fire Code. Initial review indicates few substantive changes.
6. Discussion was held on the Single Exit Stairs in residential occupancies which currently requires only 1 stairwell for 4 stories or less, but there is a push to include up to 6 stories. This is being watched by the Board.
7. The process for obtaining a variance to the State Fire Code was discussed.
8. The updating of the Statewide Mobilization Plan update was reviewed by the Board.

Next meeting is September 16, 2025.

Building Code Review Board – (Asst. Chief Pouliot) –

Public hearing was held for 2024 International Existing Building Code with amendments.

The committee gave an overview on the changes from the 2021-2024 Code Editions. The Committee recommended carrying forward all amendments except 1 (which was picked up in the new building code cycle).

There was no public comment on the existing building code.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the committee reports and amendments as written. The motion carried.

Introduced 2024 IBC with amendments as well as 2024 IRC with amendments. Vote was made to move forward with both codes and amendments to a public hearing at the July 11th meeting.

There was a review of current bills going through the State legislature. There was some discussion on SB188 which allows a permit applicant to utilize a third party for document review and field inspections.

Next meeting is July 11th at 10:00 am. Agenda for the July meeting includes:

- Public hearing for 2024 IBC code with 17 amendments
- Public hearing for 2024 IRC code with 26 amendments
- Introduce 2024 IECC and amendments
- Introduce 2024 IMC and amendments
- Introduce IPC and amendments
- Introduce ISPSC and amendments

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief Blanchette) –
No report

Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle)

- Laconia Facility Update: Construction fully underway – foundation pouring and finalized site design underway;

- Genasys Emergency notification platform ([NH Alerts](#)) is up and running, If you are interested in becoming a POC for your community to use the ENS for local messaging, please let me know. The statewide ENS system is offered to local communities at no cost;
- Community Events / school visits reminder – connect with our Public Outreach / Education Team for more info: Patrick Cavanaugh, 603-271-6911, patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov ;
- Met with Seacoast stakeholders including Chief McQuillen of Portsmouth Fire, USCG, NHSP, Portsmouth PD Chief Newpoert and HSEM re: response to emergencies around the Piscataqua River Bridge – more to follow with the focus on communications and Interoperability, to include Maine P/S partners;
- Radio Communications Section assisted and supported the Hampton Fireworks event(s) over the weekend (Hampton PD, Beach Patrol, NHSP);
- New Rapid Response Team (“Protocall”) is now taking calls as New Hampshire’s Rapid Response Access Point since July 1st;
- Planning for NASCAR 2025 continues, communications-specific meeting this morning with stakeholders and HSEM;
- Participated in the Summer safety news conference in Hampton;
- Discussions with Northern Borders Dispatch regarding their Communications enhancement project continue – providing direction and technical guidance as needed;
- Met with Cheshire County Administrator and Technical staff re: their Radio enhancement project and integration of Cheshire County EMS;
- Social Media / Public Education Updates:
In June, the Division of Emergency Services and Communications used its social media platforms (Facebook, X, and Instagram) to highlight employee achievements and promote the capabilities of New Hampshire 911. We continued to raise awareness of programs like Text-to-911 and New Hampshire 911 C.A.R.E.S., which help us better serve the needs of our residents and visitors. We also reminded our followers about helpful tools like what3words, which can provide precise location information during an emergency. In addition, we invited schools and communities across New Hampshire to schedule 911 outreach visits, providing opportunities to learn about the work we do and what happens on the other end of the line.

Throughout the month, we continued to tag and engage with our public safety partners and saw strong community interaction as a result. Social media remains an important tool for public education, outreach, and sharing the resources available to residents and visitors in an emergency.

- Media events:



- Halias Symposium is scheduled for 8/14 – [Click here for the sign up link for more information;](#)
- Interoperability Roundtable discussion kick-off in August, the first one is scheduled for Aug. 15th in Rockingham County – stay tuned for details as to location, time and agenda!
- Any questions, comments, concerns, please reach out...

E 911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) – No report

NH Drug Overdose Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

At this meeting we had no Overdose Fatality cases to review.

A discussion on the year-to-date recommendations resulting from cases heard. The recommendations will be included in Annual Report due the end of the year.

A discussion was held on actually what information we can request for the case reviews. The Attorney General's office will be contacted to look at the Legislation that created the Commission.

A discussion on what services are feasible for the State to offer to lower fatalities.

NH Information Analysis Center – (James Heinz-liaison) –

- Large public gatherings are still targets and he urges caution.
- He spoke of the cases of terrorism involving arson.

New England Fire Chiefs – a Division of the IAFC – (Chief Jones) –

2025 Conf/Expo Mohegan Sun, CT., Oct 28 – 31st.

To include Golf Tournament, Professional development to include Officer Development Program accredited through the IAFC with [Columbia Southern Edu](#). With our own Chief Emanuel presenting one of the Modules. Other seminars include California and Hawaii wildfires, returning home with 10 fingers and toes, would you join your own department and once again Dr. Sawyer from NH on mental health to name a few.

Join Us at the 2025 New England Fire Chiefs Conference & Exposition

October 29-31, 2025 | Mohegan Sun Event Center

We are excited to invite you to join us at this year's 2025 New England Fire Chiefs Conference & Exposition at the Mohegan Sun Event Center. This premier event promises to deliver exceptional professional development opportunities, cutting-edge training, and invaluable networking experiences for fire service leaders throughout New England.

Professional Development Excellence

Our Professional Development Committee has worked tirelessly to bring the prestigious Officer Development Program to our conference. This accredited program, offered in conjunction with Columbia Southern University and the International Association of Fire Chiefs, allows participants to complete modules at the conference and at other major events like FDIC or FRI. This is a unique opportunity to advance your career through nationally recognized professional development.

Outstanding Educational Programming

The 2025 conference features a comprehensive lineup of courses designed to address today's most critical fire service challenges:

- **IAFC Officer Development Program** - Chief Officer Level 1
- **Courageous Conversations** - Building leadership communication skills
- **Is Your Department a Place You Would Join?** - Recruitment and retention strategies
- **Community Risk Reduction - NFPA** - Modern prevention approaches
- **Leader or Manager?** - Defining your leadership style

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- **Employee Development** - Building stronger teams
- **10 Fingers/10 Toes** - Safety and survival techniques
- **Recruitment & Retention - ADAPT** - Innovative staffing solutions
- **Firefighter Mental Health** with Dr. Nicole Sawyer
- And many more specialized sessions

Keynote Presentations You Won't Want to Miss

Thursday Morning: Our keynote speakers were directly involved in the incident command of the devastating Maui and California wildfires. Learn firsthand from these experienced leaders about large-scale incident management, resource coordination, and lessons learned from these historic events.

Friday Morning: Dr. Nicole Sawyer will present on firefighter mental health - a critical topic for today's fire service. Anyone who has attended one of Dr. Sawyer's presentations knows this is an unmissable opportunity to gain insights into supporting the mental wellness of our firefighters.

Enhanced Exhibit Experience

We recognize that our vendors and exhibitors are essential partners in making this event successful. This year's exhibition will feature:

- Fire apparatus and ambulances
- Extrication equipment demonstrations
- Marine fire/rescue equipment
- RMS report software
- Station alerting systems
- Fitness equipment
- EMS equipment
- T-shirts and novelties
- And much more!

Educational programs include built-in breaks specifically designed to allow attendees time to visit the exhibit floor and connect with vendors showcasing the latest innovations in fire service equipment and technology.

Why Attend?

The New England Fire Chiefs Conference & Exposition offers unparalleled opportunities for:

- **Leadership Development** - Enhance your command and management skills
- **Innovation Exposure** - Discover the latest equipment and technology
- **Training Excellence** - Participate in hands-on learning experiences
- **Networking** - Connect with fire service professionals throughout New England

Our goal is to provide programming that draws fire service professionals from across the region while creating meaningful opportunities for learning, growth, and professional connections.

Registration Information

Seats are hotter than a rescue drill... Register today!

Don't miss this opportunity to advance your career, enhance your department's capabilities, and network with fellow fire service professionals from throughout New England.

For registration and more information, visit: www.newenglandfirechiefs.org

Director Murray is chairing a committee to relocate the Conf/Expo in the future to a more central location within the New England States. Meet with FCAM Officials to discuss the possibility of joining forces with the Conf/Expo. Further discussion to follow.

A regional safer grant application was completed and submitted for around 4 million to assist vol. departments with recruitment and retention. To cover FF 1 & 2 Training, PPE, and physicals for new hirers.

Subject: DHS Delaying FY 2025 NOFO for Homeland Security Grants

President Waldo and Members of the Board,

Please see the email below from Ken LaSala, IAFC Government Relations Director, concerning a decision by DHS to delay the FY 2025 NOFO for Homeland Security Grants.

This is a problem, because the funds must be awarded before October 1, 2025. The FY 2025 AFG, SAFER, and FP&S grants are less of a concern "right now", because they just have to be awarded before October 1, 2026.

IAFC Government Relations has started a *Voter Voice Campaign* for all IAFC members to urge their Members of Congress to contact DHS Secretary Kristi Noem and ask her to **re-start the application period for the SHSGP and UASI programs immediately.**

Voter Voice

Link: <https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/IAFC/Campaigns/128570/Respond>

Very respectfully,

Rob

J. Robert "Rob" Brown, Jr.

CEO/Executive Director

International Association of Fire Chiefs

Subject: DHS Delaying FY 2025 NOFO for Homeland Security Grants

Hi Rob,

I heard on Friday that the Department of Homeland Security is delaying the release of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Fiscal Year 2025 homeland security grants including the State

Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) and Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant programs. **This is a problem, because the funds have to be awarded before October 1, 2025.** (The FY 2025 AFG, SAFER, and FP&S grants are less of a concern right now, because they just have to be awarded before October 1, 2026.)

Congress appropriated \$468 million for the SHSGP program in FY 2025. It also appropriated \$553.5 million for the UASI program. President Trump signed the continuing resolution to fund the government on March 15. However, as the end of the fiscal year in September approaches, DHS has yet to start the application period for these grant programs. Meanwhile, the U.S. faces an increased threat from both domestic and foreign terrorist groups.

The IAFC started a Voter Voice [campaign for our members to ask their Members of Congress](#) to contact DHS Secretary Noem and ask her to begin the application period for the SHSGP and UASI programs.

New Business -

Old Business –

- Chief Thomas stated that the HMEP grant has been completed and the additional grant for 2025 has been approved.
- Chief Yanuzzi thanked the group for bringing the size of the CPAT vests to the forefront.
- Chief Murray stated that the Dept. of Safety will be prioritizing CDL licenses and thanked the Commissioner.
- Chief Jones expressed dismay that the applications for FFI in-house programs are down and he is trying to keep the program afloat. Nick Mercuri affirmed that at LRCC, the applications are down. Most of the apps now are EMS related. He hopes to work with the NHAFC on the issue. He also thanked all the chiefs that responded to the survey.

Good and Welfare –

- The 2025 Golf Tournament will be held at Lochmere CC in Tilton on August 11.
- Tom Green reported that September 27 will be the Memorial at the site at 1000 hours, sponsored by the NH State Firemens' Association.
- Chief Emanuel thanked everyone for being reelected to the IAFC Committee he serves on.

The raffle was held. \$300 was collected and \$150 was given as prizes. Proceeds counted by Chiefs J. Chamberlain and J. Watkins.

The meeting was adjourned at 1050 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Brent T. Lemire, ret.
Executive Director, NHAFC

July 10, 2025