



# DELIVERING A UNITED MESSAGE

33rd Annual National Fire and  
Emergency Services Symposium

**DR. WILLIAM F. JENAWAY**  
**SEMINAR PROGRAM**

MAY 22-23 | WASHINGTON, DC

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# CFSI ASSOCIATE'S CLUB



The CFSI Associate's Club program features seven levels of support. Depending on the level you select, CFSI will provide you with a number of benefits, which may include exclusive access to our monthly newsletter, distinct recognition on the CFSI website, and a yearly commemorative gift to show our appreciation of your generous contribution (visit [www.cfsi.org](http://www.cfsi.org) for specific details on the benefits included with each level of support).

## Levels of Support (please circle one):

Presidential - \$1,000  
Speaker - \$250  
Senate - \$50

Vice Presidential - \$500  
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Congressional - \$25

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*Note: Annual memberships completed online can be automatically renewed each year on the anniversary of your start date. If paying by check, please make payable to Congressional Fire Services Institute*



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# WASHINGTON DC METRO



**The Washington Hilton is located at:  
1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20009**

**Tel: 202-483-3000**

**Fax: 202-232-0438**

## FROM THE HILTON TO THE METRO

Walk downhill on Connecticut Avenue NW toward DuPont Circle. The Metro entrance is located at the corner of Q St. NW and Connecticut Ave NW. The Metro is approximately 5 blocks from the Hilton (a 15 minute walk).

## FROM DUPONT CIRCLE TO THE SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

Take the Red Line to Union Station. Exit from Union Station and walk two blocks south on Delaware Avenue NE. The Russell Senate Office Building will appear on your left. Immediately to the left of this building are the Dirksen and Hart Senate Office Buildings.

## FROM DUPONT CIRCLE TO THE HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

Take the Red Line to Metro Center. Depart the train and transfer to the Orange (New Carrollton) or Silver/Blue Lines (Largo Town Center). Either train will take you to the Capitol South stop. When you depart the Metro, you will be facing the Cannon House Office Building. To the left of the Cannon House Office Building are the Longworth and Rayburn House Office Buildings.

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plan your trip





# WASHINGTON DC METRO

## DC METRO MAP



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# CEUS

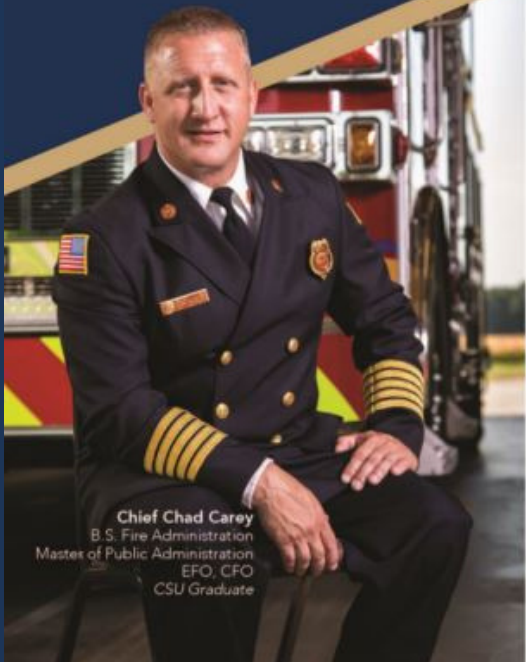
"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." – Benjamin Franklin



We are happy to announce that the 2023 Congressional Fire Services Institute has been approved for CEUs through Columbia Southern University.

To request your CEU certificate please visit the CSU website, [Request CEUs | Approved Events | CEU \(columbiasouthern.edu\)](#). Once your request has been received, and processed, a CSU Continuing Education representative will send your CEU certificate by email. The \$20.00 service fee has been waived.

If you have any questions, please contact Columbia Southern University's Department of Continuing Education at [ContinuingEd@ColumbiaSouthern.edu](mailto:ContinuingEd@ColumbiaSouthern.edu)



**Chief Chad Carey**  
B.S. Fire Administration  
Masters of Public Administration  
EFO, CFO  
CSU Graduate


## The Leader in Online Fire Education

Columbia Southern University offers completely online degrees for firefighters interested in taking the next step in their career. Taught by some of the industry's most distinguished fire professionals, CSU's coursework covers relevant topics including fire prevention, administration, behaviors, emergency services, management, risk reduction and more.

**The CFSI Seminars have been approved for Continuing Education Units (CEUs)**

Please visit [ColumbiaSouthern.edu/CEParticipant](http://ColumbiaSouthern.edu/CEParticipant) and follow the instructions to apply.

To qualify and receive the CEU Certificate, participant attendance must be documented for each training session attended.



**COLUMBIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**

[ColumbiaSouthern.edu/Fire](http://ColumbiaSouthern.edu/Fire) » 877.347.6050

Located in Orange Beach, Alabama. Careful employment information available at [ColumbiaSouthern.edu/Disclosure](http://ColumbiaSouthern.edu/Disclosure).



# WILL CALL SCHEDULE



**Monday, May 22**

**8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
Concourse Level**

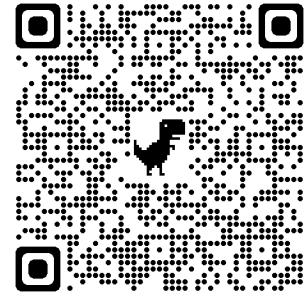
Will Call will be located on the Concourse Level from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. for ticket purchases and pick-up.



**Tuesday, May 23**

**7:00 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.  
Concourse Level**

Will Call will be located on the Concourse Level from 7:00 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. for ticket purchases and pick-up.



**Floor Plan**

**Washington Hilton**

Scan the QR code on the left to see a map of the Hilton.

**MONDAY, MAY 22**

**Recruitment, Development, and Retention Strategies for Today's Fire and Emergency Services**

**9:00 AM – 9:50 AM**  
**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Ken Willette, Executive Director, North American Fire Training Directors
- Chief Joel Cerny, National Volunteer Fire Council
- Chief Salvatore Scarpa, Columbus (GA) Fire & EMS

**Federal Government Partners in Fire Service Health and Safety Research**

**10:00 AM – 10:50 AM**  
**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Dr. Susan Moore, Associate Director for Science, National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health
- Dr. Emily Haas, Senior Research Behavioral Scientist, National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health
- Dr. Rick Davis, Leader, Flammability Reduction Group, National Institute of Standards and Technology

**Lithium-Ion Batteries: Challenges Facing the Fire and Emergency Services**

**11:00 AM – 11:50 AM**  
**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Dr. Steve Kerber, Vice President & Executive Director, Fire Safety Research Institute
- Adam Barowy, Research Engineer, Fire Safety Research Institute
- Sean DeCrane, Director Health and Safety Operational Services, International Association of Fire Fighters
- Chief Michael O'Brian, Board of Directors, International Association of Fire Chiefs



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**MONDAY, MAY 22**

**LUNCH BREAK**

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Creating a Path Forward**

**1:00 PM – 1:50 PM**

**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Dr. Candice McDonald, Deputy CEO, National Volunteer Fire Council
- Dave Denniston, Director of Risk Management, McNeil and Company Inc.
- Dr. Sara Jahnke, Director, Center for Fire Rescue and EMS Health Research
- Dr. Brittany Hollerbach, Associate Scientist and Deputy Director, Center for Fire Rescue and EMS Health Research
- Chief Amy Hanifan, Women in Fire
- Deputy Chief Laurie VandeSchoot, Center for Fire Rescue and EMS Health Research / Satya Inc.

**Fire & Water Mixer**

**Jack Rose Dining Saloon  
2007 18th St NW, Washington, DC 20009**

This welcoming reception sponsored by LION and DuPont has a limited number of tickets available, so order your tickets now to ensure you can connect with your fire and emergency services colleagues!

Complimentary tickets available to Cabinet-level or higher members of the CFSI Associate's Club.



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**TUESDAY, MAY 23**

**Government 101: Advocating for the Fire and  
Emergency Services**

**8:00 AM – 8:50 AM**

**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Michaela Campbell, Director of Government Affairs, Congressional Fire Services Institute
- Seth Statler, Director of Government Affairs, National Fire Protection Association
- Evan Davis, Director of Government Affairs, International Association of Fire Fighters
- Ryan Woodward, Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, National Volunteer Fire Council
- Sean Carroll, Director of Government Relations, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

**A Conversation with the U.S. Fire Administrator**

**9:00 AM – 9:50 AM**

**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell, Administrator, U.S. Fire Administration
- Bill Webb, Executive Director, Congressional Fire Services Institute

**Enhancing Fire Service-Based EMS**

**10:00 AM – 10:50 AM**

**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Chief Dennis Compton, International Fire Service Training Association
- Chief Charles Hood, San Antonio (TX) Fire Department
- Deputy Chief Andrew Estrada, San Antonio (TX) Fire Department
- Chief Greg Barton, Beverly Hills (CA) Fire Department
- Sean Stokes, Beverly Hills (CA) Fire Department
- Dr. Robert Holman, Medical Director, Washington D.C. Fire and EMS Department
- Amy Mauro, Executive Director, DC Fire and EMS Foundation
- Lisa Edmondson, RN, BSN, MBA, Navigation lead, Washington D.C. Fire and EMS Department



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**



**TUESDAY, MAY 23**

**The Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission: Where Are We Now and Where Are We Going?**

**11:00 AM – 11:50 AM**

**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Michele Steinberg, Wildfire Division Director, National Fire Protection Association
- Mike Morgan, Director, Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control
- Fire Marshal Mariana Temple-Ruiz, State of Oregon

**LUNCH BREAK**

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.

**Active Shooter and Hostile Event Response Preparedness and Planning**

**1:00 PM – 1:50 PM**

**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Chief Otto Drozd, Executive Secretary, Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association
- Chief John A. Donnelly, Sr., Washington D.C. Fire and EMS Department
- Chief Antonio Burden, Augusta (GA) Fire Department
- John Francis Ryan, Emergency Manager, Critical Event Preparedness and Response, Augusta University
- Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey, Massachusetts Department of Fire Services

**Into the Breach: Data and Cyber Security for Fire Departments**

**2:00 PM – 2:50 PM**

**Jefferson East, Washington Hilton**

Presenters:

- Chief John Oates, CEO, International Public Safety Data Institute
- Martin Stanley, Strategic Technology Branch Chief, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**TUESDAY, MAY 23**

**General Reception**

**5:00 PM – 6:30 PM**  
**International Terrace, Washington Hilton**

**33rd Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner**

**7:00 PM – 10:00 PM**  
**International Ballroom, Washington Hilton**



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schedule online**



**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**



# PRESENTER BIOS

**Adam Barowy** is a Research Engineer for UL's Fire Safety Research Institute (FSRI). In nine years of commercial fire research prior to joining FRSI, Adam worked to develop UL Standards and Test Methods, as well as evaluated emerging fire hazards and new and innovative fire protection solutions. Adam advanced UL's capabilities for characterizing the thermal, fire, and explosion hazards of energy storage technologies and led the technical development of UL 9540A and UL's large-scale ESS fire testing program. Prior to UL, Adam worked at the National Institute of Standards and Technology where he conducted full-scale structure fire field experiments to enable improved firefighting tactics, reconstructed LODD/injury fire incidents, and evaluated firefighting equipment. Adam volunteered with the Amherst Fire Department while pursuing his bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He later graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute with a Master of Science in Fire Protection Engineering.

Fire **Chief Greg Barton** has served the community of Beverly Hills for 28 years and is currently serving as the 10th Fire Chief. He is the 39th Certified Fire Chief (CFC) in the history of California through the California State Fire Marshal's Office. Chief Barton earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History, a Master's degree in Public Administration, and Executive Fire Officer (EFO) from the United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy. He is a graduate of the Naval Post Graduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security-Executive Leaders Program, the Los Angeles Fire Department Leadership Academy, and the International Association of Fire Chiefs - Fire Service Executive Development Institute. Chief Barton is a certified Chief Fire Officer (CFO), Fire Marshal (FM), a Chief Training Officer (CTO) for the Center for Public Safety Excellence, a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) through the International Association of Emergency Managers, and a Fellow (FIFireE) with the Institution of Fire Engineers. He serves as a Board Member, Governance Committee Member, Executive Committee Member, and Co-Chair Prevention and Education Committee for the Children's Burn Foundation. Additionally, Chief Barton serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Maple Counseling Center, Executive Team Member on the Beverly Hills 9/11 Memorial Committee, Director of the Beverly Hills Fire Chief Funds, Governance Board Representative for the City of Beverly Hills on the Interagency Communications Interoperability System, Secretary/Treasurer for the Executive Fire Officers Section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and Secretary for the Beverly Hills Rotary Club.

In July 2021, **Chief Antonio Burden** became the 18th Fire Chief/EMA Director of the Augusta Fire Department and has made positive and impactful changes to the department. In February 2022, he was appointed to Region VI East Central Georgia EMS Council. The Augusta Fire Department/EMA serves the City of Augusta, GA (Richmond County) which has a population of 200,477. Covering 302 sq miles, the department has 19 fire stations and over 300 uniformed and civilian personnel. The Augusta Fire Department consists



# PRESENTER BIOS

of EMA, EMS, ARFF, Haz-Mat, High Angle Rope Rescue, GSAR, and Water Rescue. The City of Augusta currently has an ISO rating of 1. Recognizing the importance of community service organizations, Antonio serves in many local organizations, including the NAACP (Augusta Chapter), the Augusta Chamber of Commerce, MWPHGLGA Plymouth Rock Lodge #86, and Atlanta Consistory No. 24A. Antonio actively served as a Board Member of the DeKalb Medical Foundation. His most recent appointment is to the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Terrorism and Homeland Security Committee, where he serves on a national level to aid and provide guidance to the IAFC and policymakers on how to prepare fire and emergency services for the next terrorist attack. He is an active member of the Board of Directors for the Burn Foundation of America and represents Fire for the State of Georgia on the T.I.M.E. Task Force.

**Michaela Campbell** is the Director of Government Affairs for the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI). Prior to joining CFSI, Michaela was a Legislative Assistant at Steptoe & Johnson LLP where she worked with clients from major U.S. businesses to large trade associations, helping them to understand, track, and influence both legislative and regulatory processes. She also previously served in the United States Senate where she worked on Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) funding, as well as a broad range of economic, tax, national defense, and homeland security issues. Michaela earned a B.A. from Brown University.

**Sean Carroll** joined the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in July of 2021. With over twenty years of experience working as a public policy professional, Sean primarily has focused on fire and life safety issues. He has worked for a Fortune 500 company, the United States Senate, a presidential campaign, and a national non-profit advocacy organization. A native of the Great State of Maine, he graduated from the University of Maine in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in History.

**Chief Joel Cerny** has been a volunteer firefighter for 43 years with the Linwood Volunteer Fire Department, located in a small rural community in Nebraska. He has served as Chief of the department for the past 23 years. Chief Cerny is proud to lead the 21-member department, which includes his wife, daughter, and son-in-law as active members. Chief Cerny has held a variety of positions in the fire service, including Past President of the Butler County Mutual Aid Association; Past President of the Northeast Nebraska Firefighters Association; Past President of the Nebraska Fire Chiefs Association; Past President of the Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association; NVFC Director for the Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association; NVFC Recruitment and Retention Committee Chairman; and many more. In his full-time day job, he works as an Environmental, Health and Safety Coordinator, and oversees all the training for the 600 employees of a manufacturing facility.



# PRESENTER BIOS

**Chief Dennis Compton** was the Fire Chief in Mesa, Arizona for 6 years and Assistant Fire Chief in Phoenix (AZ) where he served for 28 years. He is Past Chairman of the Executive Board of the International Fire Service Training Association and Past Chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Council. He has also served as the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Board of Directors Chairman and Secretary of the International Public Safety Data Institute Board of Directors. Dennis is a well-known speaker and author. During his more than 52-year career in the fire service, he has received many prestigious awards and recognitions. A few include the ISFSI George D. Post National Instructor of the Year Award; the CFSI/Motorola Mason Lankford National Fire Service Leadership Award; the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association and the Arizona Fire Chiefs Association Lifetime Achievement Awards; the John Granito Award for Excellence in Fire Service Leadership and Management Research; the IAFC James O. Page EMS Achievement Award; the 2019 IAFC Presidents Award; the 2020 VCOS Presidents Award; and the 2020 NFFF Arthur Glatfelter Award. Dennis has been inducted into the National Fire Heritage Center Hall of Legends, Legacies, and Leaders; the Firehouse Legends and Icons National Hall of Fame, and is a charter member of the Arizona Fire Service Hall of Fame.

**Dr. Rick D. Davis** is the leader of and a materials research engineer in the Flammability Reduction Group and the manager of the Fire Risk Reduction in Buildings Program in the Fire Research Division (FRD) of the Engineering Laboratory (EL) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). During his nearly 20 years with NIST, Dr. Davis has conducted significant research underpinning the advancement of new fire retarding technologies, and fire performance standards and regulations associated with mattresses, furniture, structural composites, and firefighter protective clothing. More recently, Dr. Davis is leading a project on understanding firefighter exposure to PFAS from their gear and workplace environment.

**Evan Davis** serves as the IAFF's Director of Governmental Affairs and manages the IAFF's lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill and within the federal government. Evan also directly handles all legislative and regulatory issues related to labor, tax, and healthcare. Evan has an especially strong interest in EMS and is passionate about advancing the fire service's leadership role in EMS. Prior to joining the IAFF staff, Evan worked as a senior lobbyist at the International Association of Fire Chiefs for nearly 10 years.

**Sean DeCrane** currently serves as the Director, Fire Fighter Health and Safety Operational Services for the International Association of Fire Fighters based in Washington, DC. He previously served in various roles including the Director of Training and Chief of Operations before retiring as a Battalion Chief and a 25+ year veteran of the Cleveland Division of Fire.





# PRESENTER BIOS

**Dave Denniston** is the Director of Risk Management for McNeil and Company Inc. He also serves as Executive Director of the National FARMEDIC Training Program. Dave has over 30 years in Risk Management, Fire and Emergency Medical Services, and has served as an officer in several local, state, and national organizations. Dave has served as Chief, President, and Chairman of the Board for the Cortlandville Fire District, where he is still active as Department Chaplain. Dave is a Fire Commissioner in the Virgil Fire District and a Director for the Association of Fire Districts, State of New York.

Fire and EMS **Chief John A. Donnelly, Sr.** was nominated by Mayor Muriel Bowser on September 4, 2020, to serve as Fire and Emergency Medical Services Chief and lead the 2,100-member DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department. He was confirmed by the Council of the District of Columbia on December 15, 2020. Chief Donnelly started his career with DC Fire and EMS in 1992 at Truck 16. Over the course of his career, he has served at Rescue Squad 3, Tower 3, Battalion Fire Chief 2; as the Division Commander of Special Operations, Homeland Security, and Apparatus Division; and as a member of the Command Staff in Special Projects and Executive Officer Roles. Chief Donnelly serves on numerous committees supporting regional and national preparedness, including the International Association of Fire Chiefs Terrorism and Homeland Security Committee and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Fire Chief's Committee.

**Chief Otto Drozd III**, the Executive Secretary of the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association, has 35 years of experience in fire and emergency services, including 20 years as fire chief in four departments across Florida and Texas. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in Public Management and is a graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program, was awarded a fellowship to attend Harvard University's Kennedy School and holds a Chief Fire Officer Designation from the Commission on Professional Credentialing. Drozd has championed efforts that will have an enduring impact on fire and life safety. His initiative and insights spurred the fast-tracked development of NFPA 3000™, Standard for an Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Program beginning in October 2016. Chief Drozd is a frequent presenter at national and international conferences. Chief Drozd is the Past President of the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association, a Past IAFC 2nd VP, and Past President of the Florida Fire Chiefs Association.

**Lisa Edmondson** has managed the Right Care, Right Now nurse triage line program for DC Fire & EMS's vendor, GMR, since its inception in 2018. Ms. Edmondson brings significant experience in health care to the role. She is a Registered Nurse and has received both a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree as well as a Master of Business Administration degree.





# PRESENTER BIOS

**Chief Andrew Estrada** is a second-generation firefighter and a thirty-year veteran of the San Antonio Fire Department. As the Deputy Chief of Operations, Chief Estrada is responsible for Fire, EMS, Mobile Integrated Health (MIH), Training Academy, Safety Division, Fusion Center, Fire Investigations Unit/Arson Division, Special Operations (Aviation, Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue, Wildland and Event Planning). Chief Estrada oversees the Southwest Texas Fire Fusion Center and has been a primary contributor to the creation of several multidisciplinary response teams comprised of the San Antonio Police Department's Mental Health Unit, the Local Mental Health Authority, and the SAFD MIH division including the nationally acclaimed Public Safety Treat Assessment Group. Chief Estrada has an Associates of Arts degree from San Antonio College, a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science in Fire Science from Southwest Texas State University, and a Master of Public Administration degree from The University of Texas at San Antonio. Chief Estrada is a graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security Executive Leadership Program and the IAFC Fire Service Executive Development Institute.

**Dr. Emily J. Haas** is a Research Health Scientist at the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health's National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory. She is the principal investigator for several projects that focus on identifying personal, organizational, and environmental risk factors in workplace settings. In her workplace-level interventions, Dr. Haas emphasizes the application of occupational safety and health (OSH) management system elements such as employee engagement and culture enhancement to improve the integration and safe adoption of new OSH technologies. Dr. Haas has published over 80 papers and has been the recipient of numerous national and international awards for her research advancements in OSH standards and practices. She received her Ph.D. in health communication from Purdue University.

**Amy Hanifan** is the Operations Chief of the McMinnville Fire Department in McMinnville, Oregon, and has been with the department since 2001. Having served in the fire service for over 20 years, she started as a volunteer and has held the ranks of firefighter/paramedic, field training officer, and company officer. Amy earned a B.S. in Fire Administration from Eastern Oregon University and an A.S. in Paramedicine from Chemeketa Community College. Amy is the current president of Women in Fire and has been on the board since 2013. She has been greatly involved with health, safety, and inclusion initiatives. Amy was the project lead for the USFA document, "Emerging Health and Safety Issues among Women in the Fire Service" and has presented the topic in several venues at the national level. Amy also serves as a Director for the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association.



# PRESENTER BIOS

**Dr. Brittany Hollerbach** is an Associate Scientist and Deputy Director at the Center for Fire, Rescue & EMS Health Research, part of NDRI-USA. She has extensive experience working on a number of federally-funded studies including as the Principal Investigator (PI) on a recent FEMA-funded study examining perceptions of protective strategies for COVID-19. She is also working on two studies examining DEI and the impact of discrimination and harassment in the fire service. Dr. Hollerbach has an interest in firefighter health in general and female firefighter health specifically, given her background as a former firefighter.

**Dr. Robert Holman** oversees the Assistant Medical Director, the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Division and EMS Peer Review Division, Healthcare Services/Public Health Analysis Division, and the Controlled Substances Division. His experience includes 24 years of practicing in the area of Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases in Arlington, Virginia, teaching as a Professor of Medicine at Georgetown, and serving as an Associate Dean of Clinical Education for Georgetown at the Virginia Hospital Center. Doctor Holman also served 13 years at the National Board of Medical Examiners, where he helped to develop and manage the Step Two portion of the United States Medical Licensing Exam. He served as Internal Medicine Discipline Director for three years at Unity Health Care in Washington, DC before coming to DC FEMS.

**Chief Charles Hood** was sworn in as the Fire Chief of the City of San Antonio Fire Department on April 16, 2007, becoming the first outside Fire Chief and the first African American Fire Chief in San Antonio. Chief Hood leads one of the largest fire departments in the nation with a budget of approximately \$354 million and over 1,800 uniform and civilian personnel. He is responsible for providing fire, emergency medical, special operations, emergency management, and fire prevention to over 1.5 million residents. In 2010, Chief Hood established a Health & Wellness Program and added a Certified Athletic Trainer. In 2015, Chief Hood launched a Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program which represents one of the most progressive evolutions in the delivery of community-based care. Chief Hood holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Service Management from the University of Ottawa.

**Dr. Sara Jahnke** is the Director of the Center for Fire, Rescue, & EMS Health Research at NDRI-USA, Inc. Dr. Jahnke earned her doctorate in Psychology and is a Fellow with the American College of Epidemiology. She has spent the majority of her career studying health behaviors in both first responder and military/veteran populations. With funding from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, the National Institutes of Health, and several foundations including the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society, Dr. Jahnke has studied the health and wellness of the fire service on a broad range of topics



# PRESENTER BIOS

including behavioral health, women's health, cancer, risk for injury, cardiovascular disease, and the benefits of diverse and inclusive environments. She regularly serves as a scientific advisor to fire service organizations. In 2021, she founded Science to the Station: A Health and Wellness Alliance – an organization of scientists, health care, and fire service professionals dedicated to providing critical information needed to improve the safety and health of firefighters and other first responders.

**Dr. Steve Kerber** is Vice President and Executive Director of the Fire Safety Research Institute at UL Research Institutes. He leads a fire safety research team dedicated to addressing the world's unresolved fire safety risks and emerging dangers to reduce death, injury, and loss from fire. Steve has led research in the areas of fire safety engineering, firefighter safety, fire forensics, and fire science. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in fire protection engineering from the University of Maryland and a Ph.D. from Lund University in Sweden. Steve is also a 13-year veteran of the fire service, with most of his service at the College Park Fire Department in Prince George's County Maryland where he served at ranks up through Deputy Chief. Steve was appointed to the rank of Honorary Battalion Chief by the Fire Department of New York, was named the 2014 International Society of Fire Service Instructors and Fire Engineering George D. Post Instructor of the Year, was awarded the 2019 Metropolitan Fire Chiefs President's Award of Distinction and is a Fellow of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers.

**Amy Mauro** is an accomplished attorney and transformative leader who has worked on critical public safety policy issues for over two decades, in both District and federal agencies and in three branches of government. She is a results-oriented manager and problem-solver known for her depth of knowledge on policy, legal, agency operations, and budget issues. She has vast executive, legal, legislative, public safety, and criminal justice experience from her time as General Counsel and Chief of Staff at the District of Columbia Office of Risk Management (DCORM), as well as her time as a staff member in the Office of the City Administrator, DC US Attorney's Office, and DC Council.

**Dr. Candice McDonald** is a former NASA federal agent who has served for approximately two decades as a firefighter, EMS Chief, CE instructor, fire inspector, and PIO. She is the deputy chief executive officer of the National Volunteer Fire Council, president of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association, and an adjunct marketing professor for Eastern Gateway Community College and the University of



# PRESENTER BIOS

Arkansas. She holds a Doctor of Business Administration degree with a specialty in homeland security, a master's degree in organizational leadership, a bachelor's degree in organizational management, and an associate degree in human services.

**Dr. Susan Moore** joined the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in 2006 with her B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Kentucky and her Ph.D. in bioengineering from the University of Pittsburgh. At NIOSH, Dr. Moore's work has focused on the public safety, healthcare and social assistance, and mining sectors. In her current role as the Associate Director for Science at NIOSH's National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory, she provides scientific and strategic leadership to improve PPE effectiveness. Dr. Moore also serves as the Co-Chair of the National Occupational Research Agenda's (NORA) Public Safety Sector Council and as the Co-Coordinator for NIOSH's Public Safety Sector Program and NIOSH's Personal Protective Technology Core and Specialty Program.

**Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell** was appointed by President Joseph Biden as the U.S. Fire Administrator on Oct. 25, 2021. Prior to her appointment, she served on the Biden-Harris Transition Team. She also served on the Public Safety Committee of the transition teams for both the mayor of New York City (2013) and the mayor of the District of Columbia (2015). With a Ph.D. in public health and a data scientist, Dr. Moore-Merrell established the International Public Safety Data Institute and served as its first CEO, and for over 26 years, served in various capacities at the International Association of Fire Fighters. She began her fire service career in 1987 as a fire department paramedic in the City of Memphis Fire Department (TN).

**Mike Morgan** is a Colorado native. He began his fire service career in 1986 and has spent 30 years serving his community and the Colorado fire service. Mike oversaw Colorado River Fire Rescue, a full-service fire department with over 100 career and volunteer members. Mike has also served for over 10 years on the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Board of Directors (including two terms as President), has participated in several projects with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and has a long history of championing fire service-related issues. His work includes the ongoing collaborative efforts to unify Colorado's fire service and to promote local community interests directed towards the mission of "saving lives and property".

**Chief Michael O'Brian** is the Fire Chief for the Brighton (MI) Area Fire Authority and serves on the board of directors for the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He is a long-time advocate in code development and currently chairs the IAFC Committee on Lithium Ion Batteries.





# PRESENTER BIOS

**Chief John Oates (Ret.)** is the CEO of the International Public Safety Data Institute. He is a former Chief of the East Hartford, Connecticut Fire Department. He has a BS from Franklin Pierce University, an MS from Oklahoma State University, is a graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program, and holds numerous professional certifications. He is a long-time contributor to the NFFF's Everyone Goes Home Program. He is a member of the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee created by the First Responder Center for Excellence, an NFFF-affiliated organization. Chief Oates serves as a member of the NFPA 3000 Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response Technical Committee and the Technical Committee for Safety at Motorsports Venues (NFPA 610) where he served as Chairman from 2005 until 2016.

**Peter J. Ostroskey** was appointed Massachusetts' state fire marshal in February 2016 after serving four years as deputy state fire marshal. As head of the state's Department of Fire Services, he oversees the Administrative Division, the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, the Fire Safety Division, the Hazardous Materials Response Program, and the Special Operations Division. The Massachusetts State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit, which includes fire investigators and the bomb squad, is assigned to him. Fire Marshal Ostroskey has 30 years of experience in the fire service, having risen through the ranks from private to the position of fire chief in Uxbridge, MA. Previously, he was the deputy director of the Statewide Emergency Telecommunications Board, which now is known as the State 9-1-1 Department.

**Mariana Ruiz-Temple** is the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and has served in that position since September 2020. She directs the agency's fire programs, including fire code development and enforcement, fire investigation, fire data collection and analysis, the Community Right to Know Program, hazmat response teams, fire safety education and information, youth education, and the regulation of the fireworks, explosives, propane, and non-retail gasoline dispensing industries. She has served in various capacities since she began her career at the OSFM in 1995. Ruiz-Temple is a member of the National Association of State Fire Marshals, the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, and the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council. She has also served on the Pacific Northwest Coordinating Group Steering Committee from 2007-2020, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Interstate Mutual Aid Project, the National Hazmat Fusion Center Executive Board, and the National Association of SARA Title III Public Officials. She was selected to serve on the IAFC Emergency Management Committee. Most recently she was selected to serve on the Biden-Harris National Wildland Mitigation and Management Commission.



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August 2023 will mark 40 years in professional public service for **Mr. John Ryan**, adapting and excelling as the hazard landscape has evolved. In 2017, he retired as a Chief Officer from the United States Department of Defense Fire & Emergency Services to accept new challenges in healthcare and higher education emergency management. Working with NFPA to conceptualize a unique community model, #strongaugusta, he now leads a diverse group of multidisciplinary stakeholders in an effort to utilize the National Fire Protection Association's Standard for an Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Program to build a community-wide framework identifying the program elements to develop, plan, coordinate, evaluate and sustain a whole community ASHER Program in Augusta, GA. The Augusta Project will serve as a model for other communities on how best to utilize tools and resources to maximize community involvement and community safety.

A thirty-two-year fire service veteran, **Chief Salvatore Scarpa** currently serves as the Fire-EMS Chief for Columbus, Georgia's second-largest city. He has written numerous articles and delivered presentations on contemporary issues in the fire service at regional, national, and international conferences. Sal has an associate's degree in fire science, a bachelor's degree in public administration, and a master's degree in leadership studies. He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer (EFO) program, a credentialed Chief Fire Officer (CFO) with the Center for Public Safety Excellence, and a graduate of the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire Service Executive Development Institute (FSEDI).

**Martin Stanley**, Chief of the Strategic Technology Branch, leads the development of Artificial Intelligence strategy for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). Martin previously led the Cybersecurity Assurance Program at DHS and the Enterprise Cybersecurity Program at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Prior to his federal service, Martin held executive leadership positions at Vonage and UUNET Technologies.

**L. Seth Statler** is the Director of Government Affairs for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and heads the Washington, D.C. office of this global self-funded nonprofit. Previously, Statler served as the Associate Administrator for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) where he managed relations with Congress, governors, state legislators, and local governments. Prior to NASA, Statler served as Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Congressional





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Affairs at U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the nation's largest law enforcement agency. While working for former Senator Paul Sarbanes, Statler led successful efforts to secure national recognition of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg and create the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. A member of the NFFF Board for 24 years, Statler now serves as the foundation's Ambassador to the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation. As a former staff member for Congressman Steny Hoyer, Seth advised the congressman on fire service, appropriations, national defense, and other issues. Statler is a member of the College Park Volunteer Fire Department in Maryland, a director of The Center for Campus Fire Safety, and a member of ANSI's National Policy Advisory Group.

**Michele Steinberg** (she/her) is the Wildfire Division Director at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA®). NFPA is a global self-funded nonprofit organization founded in 1896 and devoted to eliminating death, injury, property, and economic loss due to fire, electrical, and related hazards. Since 2002, Ms. Steinberg has guided the development and growth of the Firewise USA® recognition program, the Wildfire Community Preparedness Day campaign, and Outthink Wildfire™, a policy initiative to end the destruction of communities by wildfire. She is a member and past officer of the International Association of Wildland Fire, and authors the wildfire column for NFPA Journal. Most recently, Michele was selected to serve on the presidential Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission tasked with forming federal policy recommendations and strategies on better ways to prevent, manage, suppress, and recover from wildfires.

**Sean Stokes** joined the City of Beverly Hills Fire Department in 2006 and currently serves as the Fire Department's EMS Administrator. Prior to this position, Mr. Stokes held the position of Manager for the Emergency Department at Western Medical Center in Santa Ana, CA from 2004 - 2006, Financial Analyst for Tenet Healthcare System from 2002 - 2003, and staff Registered Nurse in Emergency / Trauma Services and Intensive Care Unit from 1998- 2002. Mr. Stokes continues to work in Emergency & Trauma Services at said hospital. Mr. Stokes' education includes a Bachelor of Science Degree from CSU Long Beach in Nursing (1997), a Master of Business Administration from UC Irvine (2002), Fire Technology core curriculum from Santa Ana College (2006) as well as a multitude of job-related certifications. Additionally, Mr. Stokes graduated from LA City Fire Department's Leadership Academy in 2015. Mr. Stokes has been the recipient of various City & Community recognitions, including the City of Beverly Hills' Employee Excellence Award (2014), the Outstanding Achievement Award (Rotary of Club of Beverly Hills: 2016), and the Fred Tarquinio Award (Beverly Hills FD: 2021).



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**Deputy Chief Laurie VandeSchoot (Retired)** consistently advocates for diverse communities and the change initiatives necessary to shift culture. She is an executive-level change agent who is known for building inclusive and high-performing cultures that strengthen communities while working in municipal government (32 years) and consulting internationally (25 years). Laurie holds several interdisciplinary degrees, including an MSc in Sustainable Development; leads numerous international fire service programs and committees on diversity, executive leadership, and human relations; and has delivered over 1,000 training and development programs to emergency service, public service, and post-secondary institutions on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Gender, Cultural Competency, LGBTQ+ Awareness, Leadership Development, Strategic Planning, and Mission Focused Transformation. In recognition of her passion for diversity and inclusion, she received an IAFC President's Award, an Immigrants of Distinction Organizational Diversity Award for outstanding achievements in implementing cultural diversity initiatives, and a Federation of Canadian Municipalities Award for outstanding contributions to international cooperation.

**Bill Webb** has served as Executive Director of the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) since 1995. Throughout his career at CFSI, Bill has delivered presentations across the country and written articles for trade publications on a broad range of issues addressing CFSI's work in Washington, DC. He also continues to contribute to policy discussions at the federal level and represent CFSI at various national forums that address the health, safety, and readiness of our nation's fire service. Before joining CFSI, Bill worked for the Firefighter Combat Challenge as the project manager for the competition. A former member of the first Bush administration, he served as a special assistant to cabinet secretaries at the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor, preparing briefings and accompanying the secretaries as a personal travel aide. Bill is an honorary member of the Vienna, Virginia Volunteer Fire Department, the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association, and the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 36. He also serves on the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Board of Directors.

**Ken Willette**, a 35-year veteran of the fire service, serves as Executive Director of the North American Fire Training Directors, providing support to the member organizations that train more than 1.1 million volunteer and career emergency responders in the United States and Canada. In his duties, he routinely works with state, provincial, and federal government leaders, as well as private sector representatives. Willette spent more than three decades in emergency services, working as a Department of Defense aircraft rescue firefighter, volunteer firefighter, municipal



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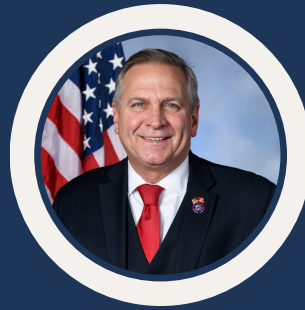
firefighter, and shift commander before rising to the rank of fire chief in two Massachusetts towns. He then spent eight years leading teams that support first responder standards development and fire service solutions at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the world's premiere fire and life safety authority. In that role, Willette launched the NFPA Responder Forum, a think tank that educates leadership candidates from more than a dozen top fire service organizations on new life safety threats, innovative technologies, cultural issues, responder health and wellness, and fire data. He is also a former president of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts and a graduate of the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officers Program with a BS in Fire Protection from SUNY Stony Brook.

**Ryan Woodward** has been Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs at the NVFC since October 2022. In this role, he actively promotes the interests and priorities of the volunteer emergency services to Congress and the Executive Branch. Before joining the NVFC, Ryan was a Senior Government Relations Manager at the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Prior to joining the Fire Chiefs, Ryan worked for former Congressman Peter King for eight years, serving in various positions including Legislative Director. While working for Rep. King, Ryan assisted the Congressman with his work as co-chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus. Ryan has a bachelor's in Economics from Gettysburg College. He resides in Washington DC and grew up in a public safety family on Long Island; his father is a former volunteer firefighter and retired police chief.

# CONGRESSIONAL FIRE SERVICES CAUCUS



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Tester  
(D-MT)  
Chair



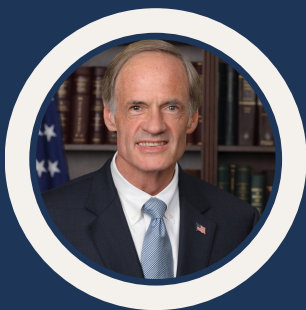
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(R-IL)  
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Collins  
(R-ME)  
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Rep. Steny  
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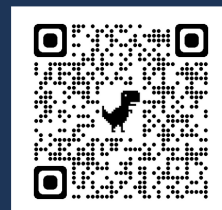
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Today, the FIRE CAUCUS is one of the largest caucuses in Congress. The FIRE CAUCUS is not about ideology, but rather respect and support for our nation's first responders. The FIRE CAUCUS unites all members of Congress in support of fire service legislation that benefits all of our nation's fire and emergency services. Acting in a bipartisan manner, the FIRE CAUCUS is dedicated to addressing the needs and challenges of our nation's fire and emergency service, while serving as a forum for education and discussion on a broad range of issues that impact the readiness and response capabilities of our nation's first responders to all forms of hazards.

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