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Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.



Q&A with SCFAST Director Patti Graham

[Patti Graham](#) is the Director of the [South Carolina First Responders Assistance and Support and Team](#) (SCFAST) and Retention Coordinator at the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association. In addition to her duties at the Association, Patti also volunteers at Boiling Springs Fire Department where her husband, Steve Graham, is chief. Patti took the time to answer a few frequently asked questions about SCFAST.

Q: What is SCFAST and who does it serve?

SCFAST is the South Carolina First Responder Assistance and Support Team and we support all first responders in the state.

Q: What is the process like if a first responder contacts SCFAST for help?

They can either call the toll-free number (9-SCFAST), fill out [contact form on SCFAST.org](#), or talk with a Peer Team Member.

Q: How do you follow up?

Generally, we follow up in whichever way the responder prefers. We can call, text, or even email.

Q: Why are programs like SCFAST critical to the Association's mission?

By serving and being a supporter of our members and their departments, we are helping individuals, families, and departments to be healthier which can in turn help with retention efforts.

Q: How can people get involved?

They can find out about [trainings](#) offered, request a training at their department/agency, and/or become a team member on the [SCFAST website](#).

Q: What are you doing to make sure clinicians in the state are prepared to serve first responders?

We connect those clinicians without prior first responder/military knowledge with the [Center for Firefighter Behavioral Health](#), an online training program that gives a better understanding of the culture. This fall we are hosting our first 3-day clinicians training, Mile In Our Boots, designed to give clinicians a hands-on learning experience about our jobs, including fire, EMS, LEO and 911 telecommunicators.

Association event



**QUARTERLY
TRAINING +
BUSINESS MEETING**

WITH GUEST SPEAKER
CORLEY MOORE

SAVE THE DATE
October 12, 2022 at 10 a.m.



Quarterly Training is on Oct. 12 at 10 a.m.

Corley Moore, Battalion Chief at Moore Fire Department in Moore, Oklahoma, is the founder of [Firehouse Vigilance](#). Corley's following is loyal to his podcast, [Weekly Scrap](#), that often features popular guests from the fire service. Batt. Chief Moore was a hit at Fire-Rescue and we're excited to welcome Corley back to the Palmetto State for [Quarterly Training](#) on **Wednesday, October 12 at 10 a.m. in the Denny Auditorium** on the Fire Academy campus. *Registration opening soon.*



Community events



Columbia, Greenville to host 9/11 memorial events

Columbia

The **Tunnel to Towers Foundation 5K Walk & Run** is in Columbia on **Friday, September 9, 2022** with a start time of **6 p.m.** Participants meet ahead of the 5K at the Columbia Convention Center. [Register for Tunnel to Towers in Columbia.](#)

Greenville

Greenville City is hosting a National Fallen Firefighters Foundation **9/11 Memorial Stair Climb** on **Saturday, September 10 from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fluor Field** on Main Street. [Register for the Greenville City Stair Climb.](#)

Is your community hosting a 9/11 memorial event?

Have your event featured in Rattle Watch! Email brook@scfirefighters.org with details.

LI applications due this month



It's almost time to submit your Leadership Institute application. **The application period closes at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31.**

Below is a refresher on what applicants should expect should they be accepted into the program.

What are the expectations?

Participants in this program should have prior experience/knowledge of their department administration and operations, experience with presentations to councils or commissions, an ability to schedule work to allow participation in all Leadership Institute functions and meetings, a desire to advance their personal skills into an executive leadership realm, and the willingness to speak in front of groups and peers.

What is the time commitment?

Participants should understand that all Leadership Institute meetings are mandatory and chief and/or department approval acknowledging this commitment is required. Participants should anticipate attending 8 daytime meetings, two 1-week trips, and two weekend outings. As stated previously, chief/department approval of the expected time commitment is required.

[Read more about LI and apply.](#)

New offer from CPM

[CPM Federal Credit Union](#) is a proud partner of the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association. CPM values its relationships with local heroes and wants you to know that they are here for you when you need a financial partner. Now, CPM is offering low mortgage rates **exclusively** for [South Carolina first responders](#).

- [August 10-13 - South Atlantic Fire-Rescue](#)
- August 19 - Ambassadors Program Meeting
- September 16-18 - SCFAST



Clinicians Weekend

- [October 12 - Quarterly Training + Business Meeting](#)



South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

Westpark Boulevard 111, 29210, Columbia

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