



AUGUST 31, 2023 | ISSUE 65

Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.



**Leadership Institute applications are due at
5 p.m.**

The deadline to apply for Leadership Institute is today, August 31, 2023 at 5 p.m.

"The year I spent in the Leadership Institute was no doubt one of the single most influential times in my career with the fire service," President **Malcolm Burns** said. "We visited career fire departments with multi-million dollar operating budgets and hundreds of members who seem to have all of the newest and coolest equipment. And on the other side of the spectrum, we visited volunteer fire departments with basically no operating budgets, purchasing fuel for the apparatus out of chicken dinner fundraisers, and with less than ten members. It was an eye-opening experience, to say the least."

Leadership Institute exposes participants to departments of all sizes, facing issues of all sizes. LI is the window into the inner workings of the Association, State Fire, and the collective South Carolina fire service.

Read [testimonials from LI alumni](#) and [apply](#) before 5 p.m. today.



Chiefs: We need your help

The fire service needs people. But how do we get them?

The Recruitment and Retention Committee is hoping to address that million-dollar question with the help of input from South Carolina fire chiefs.

Fire chiefs received an email at the beginning of the August with a request to participate in a recruitment survey. The Committee's goal is to help South Carolina fire departments by guiding the Association's efforts in recruitment and retention.

Help us, help you!

If you are a South Carolina fire chief, please share your recruitment stories and assist the Recruitment and Retention Committee in their efforts by completing [their survey](#) if you have not done so already.



Association news



1% Regional Training in York County

\$25 million.

That's how much money South Carolina fire departments receive annually in 1% funds. But do you know the rules and regulations tied to these dollars?

Our next 1% Regional Training is on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 6-8:30 p.m. in York County at the York County Fire Training Center. Join us and find out what you need to know to keep and best use your 1% money. If you plan to attend, please [register](#) so we can have a meal for you.

Contact [Jeff Oswald](#) to schedule a 1% Regional Training in your area.

Member news



Photo courtesy of IAFC and Town of Hilton Head Island Government Facebook

Hilton Head Fire Rescue members awarded by IAFC

Three Lowcountry firefighters were nationally recognized for their heroic efforts earlier this month.

Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue Battalion Chief **David Bell**, Fire Apparatus Operator **Brendan Horlbeck**, and Lieutenant **Sean Kavlick** were awarded the prestigious **Ben Franklin Award for Valor** by the

International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and Motorola Solutions. The award is given to individuals or crews who "demonstrate exceptional courage and selflessness in the face of danger, and their extraordinary life-saving efforts exemplify the true spirit of valor."

[Read more](#) about the award and the admirable action of BnC Bell, Operator Horlbeck, and Lt. Kavlick.

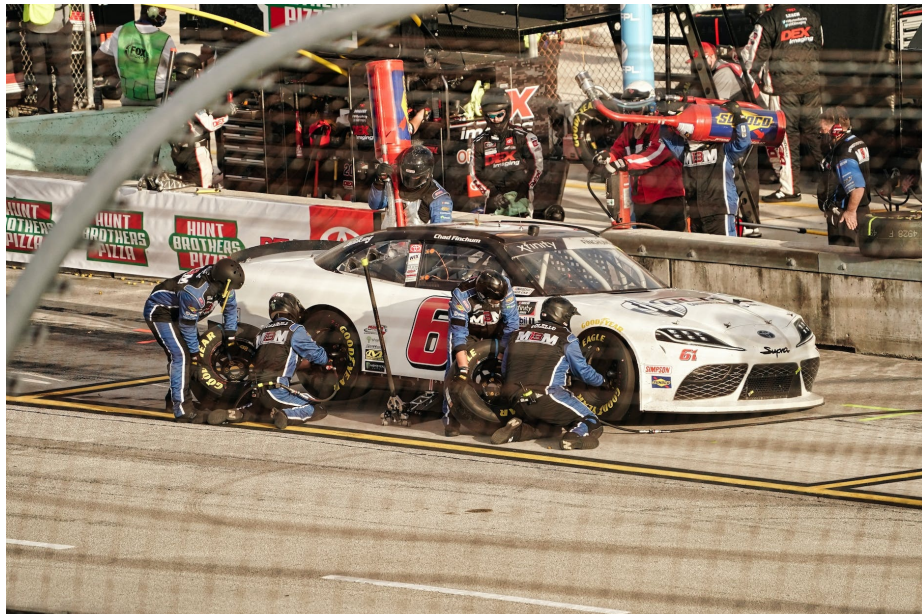
Congratulations, gentlemen!

Community events



First Responders Night with the Gamecocks

The **University of South Carolina** invites first responders and their families to the November 18 football game when the **Gamecocks** face the **Kentucky Wildcats**. [Tickets are \\$30 a piece](#). Please direct questions to Mikey Schnepfe at 803-777-7028 or schnepfe@email.sc.edu.



Last call for tickets to Darlington Raceway's First Responder Appreciation Day

Darlington Raceway is proud to support first responders on First Responder Appreciation Day on Sunday, September 3. For \$40 per person, you will get a limited-edition NASCAR challenge coin and access to the NASCAR Cup Series Race. Friends and family are eligible for the discounted ticket rate.

[Get your tickets.](#)



Photo courtesy of Travis Howze, www.travishowze.com

Travis Howze coming to Jasper County

Jasper County Fire Rescue is hosting **Travis Howze** for his Post Traumatic Purpose seminar on Wednesday, October 4 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Operation Patriots FOB (OPFOB) in Ridgeland. Travis, a native South Carolinian, is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, former LEO, retired firefighter, and speaker and author. The training is [free to attend](#) and lunch is provided.

From our partners



NVFC hosting HAZMAT training in Orangeburg

Our friends at the **National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)** are hosting a free [hazmat train-the-trainer program](#) in Orangeburg, November 4-5. The training is made possible by partnership between NVFC and the **U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)**.

The training will equip first responders with the skills and knowledge necessary to train others in their communities on hazmat safety and response. Experienced hazmat trainers and those new to the field are welcome. [Save your spot.](#)

Was this email forwarded to you? Subscribe to receive Rattle Watch every Thursday.



- [October 1-6 - Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer class 23-02](#)
- [October 17 - 1% Regional Training Class: York County](#)
- October 25 - Quarterly Training + Business Meeting
- January 18-21 - Fire Service Improvement Conference
- June 12-15, 2024 - Fire-Rescue



South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

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