



OCTOBER 6, 2022 | ISSUE 21

Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.



Special Edition

It's an exciting time to be a member of the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association. In this special edition of Rattle Watch, we're exclusively covering Association events and trainings scheduled to take place in the next few months.

ALL EVENTS →

Clear your calendar for these upcoming trainings, events, + socials

It's gearing up to be a busy time of year at the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association. We've got events planned through March (*technically* June because the grind never stops for [Fire-Rescue](#)) and are excited to host you.

Pro tip for Company Officers: Join the [Officers Section](#) if you aren't a member already for member-exclusive events.



Fire Officer Academy

The Company Officer

March 5-10, 2023

Application deadline for Officer Academy is Oct. 15

“This academy has so much potential to be a premier school not only in South Carolina, but in the southeast.” — Capt. Marcos Farr, Bluffton Township Fire District, Class 22-01

If you were lucky enough to witness or know someone who was in the inaugural class of the Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer, you already know how special this program is. *It is not your average officer training program.* Every little detail is intentional and the entire experience tests students in ways they haven’t been tested since they joined the fire service.

If you're satisfied with the type of leader you are and feel you have no more professional development left to achieve, the Officer Academy is not for you. This program is for company officers who **strive to excel at every facet of the job** and **aim to be exceptional**, not just ‘okay.’

The deadline to [apply for Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer](#) is **Saturday, Oct. 15**. The application is brief and includes a resume and letter from the applicant's chief. Members of the [Officers Section](#) who apply will receive priority.



Registration open for Improvement Conference

When firefighters from around the state come together to train, share experiences, network, and fellowship, *amazing things happen*.

Our goal for [Fire Service Improvement Conference](#) is to facilitate the growth – both at the technical and mental levels – of our members so that they may serve their communities safely, efficiently, and effectively.

Nearly everyone has heard **“you can’t train enough for a job that can kill you”** and it’s true. The time and effort you put into training for the different scenarios you face can save a life. The hands-on-training offered at FSIC helps prepare you for those situations.

Because of our partnerships with local agencies, several FSIC classes are using **acquired structures** throughout the Midlands area, a real-world

simulation that allows for real-world training.

Kick off the new year with us at [Fire Service Improvement Conference](#) in Columbia, Jan. 26-29, 2023.





**QUARTERLY
TRAINING +
BUSINESS MEETING**

WITH GUEST SPEAKER
CORLEY MOORE



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

Quarterly Training is next Wednesday, Oct. 12

It's almost time! We're thrilled to have **Corley Moore** from [Firehouse Vigilance](#) join us next week for our [Quarterly Training](#) and Business Meeting. Batt. Chief Moore is presenting his **"Down and Dirty of RIT"** program that aims to provide the tools and framework necessary for becoming an 'ultimate fireground decision maker.'

The event is free and lunch is on us. We'll see you next **Wednesday, Oct. 12 at 10 a.m.** in the **Denny Auditorium** on the Fire Academy campus. Let us know you're coming and [register](#).



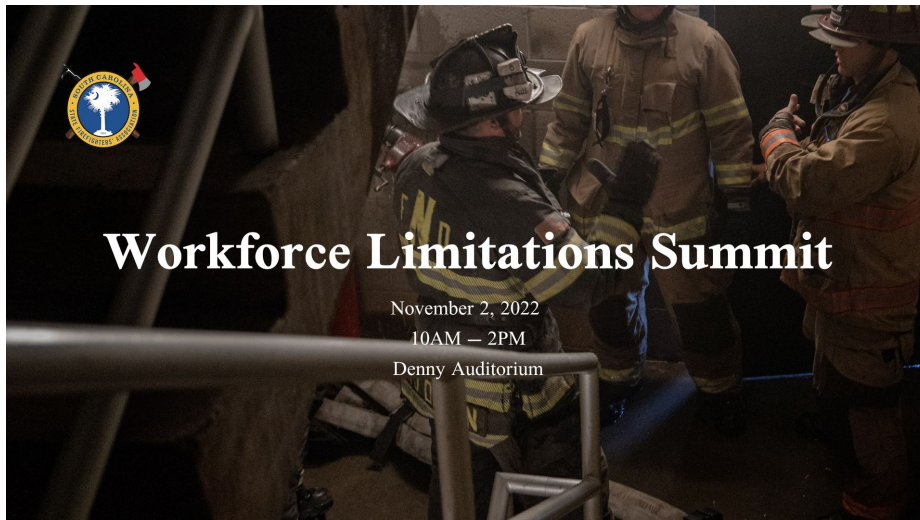
Volunteer numbers: Let's talk about it

The majority of South Carolina is comprised of rural, map-dot towns that rely on volunteers to protect its people and property.

So when there's a volunteer shortage, who's going to protect the communities, people, and places we love? As fire service leaders, what do we do?

We're hosting a **Volunteer Criticality Summit** on Saturday, Nov. 5, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Denny to produce action items at the local, regional, state, and federal level which can positively affect change. The summit will provide a structured, interactive dialogue to discuss and identify trends and needs in addressing the maintenance of volunteer firefighter numbers.

The event is free and lunch is provided. [Let us know you're coming.](#)



Paid firefighters, help us help you

Volunteer departments aren't the only ones struggling; paid departments are facing their own staffing challenges.

Labor shortages aren't unique to the fire service but there are unique aspects of the fire service that makes filling those shortages a significant challenge.

With the fire service on the brink of a labor shortage crisis, we've got to address these issues.

Join us for our **Workforce Limitations Summit** on Wednesday, Nov. 2, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Denny for a structured, interactive dialogue to discuss and identify trends and needs in addressing paid staffing shortages with the goal of producing action items to implement positive changes.

The event is free and lunch is provided. [Let us know you're coming.](#)

- [October 12 - Quarterly Training + Business Meeting](#)
- October 15 - Deadline to apply for March Officer



Academy

- [November 2 - Workforce Limitations Summit](#)
- [November 5 - Volunteer Criticality Summit](#)
- [January 26-29, 2023 - Fire Service Improvement Conference](#)
- [March 5-10, 2023 - Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer](#)



South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

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