



JANUARY 26, 2023 | ISSUE 35

Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.



Ready, set, shop: Buy your Association gear online

Get your credit cards ready—our online store is open for business.

We've partnered with **Emerald Ink and Stitches** to launch a new online store for you to buy Association gear. Payment is easy, and you can choose to have your items mailed directly to you...or someone else as a gift!

And the good news keeps coming: we're working on finalizing our [Fire-Rescue](#) design, so keep your eye out for that announcement. You'll order your conference t-shirt, hats, and other accessories through the online store. If you're more of a brick-and-mortar shopper, Fire-Rescue items will also be available for purchase during conference, June 14-17 in Myrtle Beach.

We can't wait to see you sporting our gear.

[Happy shopping!](#)

Association event



Save the date: Legislative Day is April 5

The Association's annual [Legislative Day](#) is your opportunity as a South Carolina firefighter to meet with representatives at the State House and talk one-on-one about the issues impacting your community and department.

The Association's legislative efforts continue to be successful because of the grassroots efforts of our members; Legislative Day is a celebration and recognition of those efforts and an opportunity to learn and grow together with lawmakers.

We hope to see you on **April 5** at the State House for Legislative Day. Escort sign-ups will be available soon.



Important reminder



Update your membership card info by

January 31

Members of the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association will pick up their new membership cards at [Fire-Rescue](#), June 14-17 in Myrtle Beach. These newly issued membership cards will be your access pass to Fire-Rescue 2023 and for future Association events.

The information shown on the membership cards will be pulled from the Association's database, the Member Management System.

It is the members' responsibility to make sure their information is correct and up to date. You can login to the database and update your information at any time.

Membership card information must be updated by **January 31**. Any changes made to your information after that date will not be reflect on your membership card.

[Login](#) to update your information.

A graphic for award nominations. It features a dark blue background with a light blue horizontal band. On the left is a large yellow award ribbon with a circular seal in the center. The seal contains a palm tree and the text 'SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION'. To the right of the ribbon, the text 'Award Nominations' is written in a white cursive font. Below that, 'Submit your award nominations today!' is written in a white sans-serif font. A note in smaller white text states: 'Note: Nominations are accepted year-round. To be considered for a 2022 award, nominations must be submitted before January 31, 2023.' At the bottom right, the social media handle '@scfirefighters' and the website 'www.scfirefighters.org/awards' are listed. The graphic is decorated with yellow plus signs in the corners.

Last call for award applications

The deadline to submit an award application for consideration this year is **Tuesday, January 31**.

Our members are doing incredible, notable work at home in their communities; let us recognize them on the state level!

[Browse awards categories and submit an application.](#)

News from the State House



Each week when the legislature is in session, Association lobbyists Stewart, Konduros, and Associates provide an update on legislation that impacts the fire service. All Legislative Updates for current session are posted on our [website](#).

Today we're taking a look at State Fire budget requests from LLR.

Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (LLR) - LLR is assigned to the Ways and Means Transportation and Regulatory Budget Subcommittee.

LLR's Request:

- \$3 million non-recurring dollars for the Volunteer Strategic Assistance and Fire Equipment (V-SAFE) program, which allows chartered volunteer fire departments and chartered combination departments to apply for grants to purchase equipment and training services;
- \$1 million recurring dollars to establish a grant program for local fire departments to upgrade radio communications systems;
- \$850,000 recurring dollars to meet federal OSHA funding match requirement;
- \$280,000 non-recurring dollars for local fire department grants (non-volunteer)

[Continue reading.](#)

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

- [February 4, 2023 - 1% Regional Training, Abbeville County](#)
- [February 11, 2023 - Firefighter Memorial Service](#)
- [February 13, 2023 - 1%](#)



[Regional Training,
Orangeburg County](#)

- March 5-10, 2023 - Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer
- [March 16, 2023 - 1% Regional Training, Spartanburg County](#)
- [May 16 + 17 - Cleveland School Fire Remembrance](#)



South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

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