



MAY 4, 2023 | ISSUE 49

# Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.



## Happy International Firefighters Day!

We're humbled by the opportunity to serve South Carolina firefighters day in and day out. You're pillars in your community, active community servants, role models for the next generation, and that's just scratching the surface. You willingly risk your life and sacrifice time with your family to be in the fire service. Your contributions are significant and make your community a better place to live and work. Thank you for what you do.

*Happy International Firefighters Day!*



## Planning for Fire-Rescue: Deals and

## discounts

When you're planning your [Fire-Rescue](#) experience, you have numerous options for delicious restaurants, family-friendly activities, and fire service family discounts. With the beach just a few steps away and endless attractions, *the fun never ends when visiting Myrtle Beach.*

Plan your trip and add [these deals and discounts](#) to your itinerary.



## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and this year's National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) theme is More Than Enough, an opportunity to remember the inherent value we each hold — no matter our diagnosis, appearance, socioeconomic status, background or ability. The U.S. has observed Mental Health Awareness Month since the 1940s as an effort to fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support the millions of people affected by mental illness.

As a first responder, being in good mental health is critical to perform your job. Please remember you have access to [South Carolina First Responder Assistance and Support Team](#) for Peer Team Trainings and for resources on mental and behavioral health.

## Community event



## Southeast Region Firefighter Challenge is next week

Do you have what it takes to compete against the best of the best in firefighter fitness? *Are you up for the challenge?*

[Register](#) to compete next week, May 10-13, in the Southeast Region Firefighter Challenge Championship in Virginia Beach!

The mission of the Firefighter Combat Challenge (FCC) is to “promote, showcase, and celebrate the selfless spirit and extraordinary fitness levels of America’s firefighters in an exciting and entertaining sports competition that simulates the arduous and essential skills of firefighting as first responders compete against each other—and the clock.”

[Register](#) before May 10.



## Last call for Darlington's First Responder Appreciation Day

Darlington Raceway is proud to support first responders on **First Responder Appreciation Day** on **Sunday, May 14**. For \$40 per person, you will get a reserved grandstand seat and a limited-edition NASCAR challenge coin. Friends and family are eligible for the discounted ticket rate.

[Get your tickets.](#)

May 4 – 7, 2023  
#nfflightthenight2023  
#firehero2023

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

LIGHT THE NIGHT  
for Fallen Firefighters

Sign up at: [www.firehero.org/light-the-night](http://www.firehero.org/light-the-night)

## Light the Night starts today

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's annual Light the Night event begins around the country today, May 4, and runs through Sunday, May 7.

The annual tradition started in 2017 as a way for the NFFF to recognize the 25th anniversary of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend. In the years since, Light the Night has expanded and includes fire departments and families lighting their homes in red. It's not too late to [plan your tribute!](#)

## News from the State House



### Legislative Update

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 looking at the Senate Bill 251.

S 251 (First Responders' Workers' Compensation Coverage for PTSD) By M. Johnson, Adams and Gustafson. Provides that first responders medically diagnosed with Post-traumatic stress disorder arising from a significant traumatic experience or situation in the course of scope of employment, the first responder has an incapacity to work as determined by the treating physician and the first responder is participating in and receiving clinical care through SCLEAP or SC FAST programs may be eligible to make a workers' compensation claim. Referred to Judiciary. A subcommittee met on S 251 was held Tuesday, April 4, 2023 where S251 was reported out favorably. S.251 was taken up by the full committee on Tuesday, April 25 and was carried over.

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- [May 16 + 17 - Cleveland School Fire Remembrance](#)
- [May 18 - The Jive with Amanda Moore and Sabrina Yaw](#)



- [June 14 - Foundation Golf Tournament](#)
- June 14 - Beach Bash with SCFIS
- [June 16 - Jr./Explorer Competition](#)
- [June 14-17 - Fire-Rescue](#)
- [August 24 - 1% Regional Training Class: Beaufort County](#)
- October 1-6 - Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer class 23-02
- [October 17 - 1% Regional Training Class: York County](#)



## South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

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