



JULY 7, 2022 | ISSUE 8

# Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.

## How much do you know about your 1% funds?

South Carolina fire departments receive over **\$18 million dollars annually** in 1% funds. These funds are meant to be used to benefit firefighters by providing benefits and paying for expenses that the regular department resources will not provide.

But there are many regulations tied to these 1% funds—*do you know what they are?*

Come join us on [Thursday, July 14 in Columbia](#) or [Monday, August 1 in Hampton](#) to find out what you need to know to keep and best use your 1% funds. Both classes are from 6-8:30 p.m. and a meal will be provided at each training.

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



**Cut costs with your  
Association membership**



Being a member of the Association comes with plenty of benefits to boost the value of your dollar. Providing South Carolina firefighters with discounts on services is important to us, and we actively seek partnerships that will directly benefit you and your families. From mortgage and refinancing assistance to deals on textbooks, saving is easy as a member of the Association.

[Explore ways to start saving.](#)

## Meet 4th VP Brian Christmas



**Brian Christmas**, Assistant Chief of County Operations at Sumter Fire Department, was sworn in as the 4th Vice President of the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association on Saturday, June 11 during the banquet and [Transfer of Command ceremonies](#) at the conclusion of Fire-Rescue.

Chief Christmas got his start in the fire service when he was assigned as a firefighter in the United States Air Force. After leaving the Air Force, Chief Christmas returned to his hometown of Sumter where he joined the fire department as a volunteer. He was hired as a career firefighter in Sumter in 1997.

[Read more about 4VP Brian Christmas.](#)

## Presenters needed for 2022-23 events



Are you a dynamic speaker with a passion for the past, present, and future of the fire service? Please complete our [speaker application form](#) to be considered to present at an Association event or training. Speaking opportunities include Quarterly in the fall, Fire Service Improvement Conference in the winter, and Fire-Rescue in the summer. **Applications will be accepted through September 30, 2022.**



- [July 14 - 1% Regional Training: Richland County](#)
- [July 22 - Ambassadors Program Meeting via Facebook Live](#)
- [August 1 - 1% Regional Training: Hampton County](#)
- September 16-18 - SCFAST Clinicians Weekend



## South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

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