



NOVEMBER 9, 2023 | ISSUE 75

Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.

Welcome To
The Team



Kim Bowman

Kim joins the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association as the One Percent Retirement Coordinator after over a decade at Toledano and Associates, Inc.

Meet Kim Bowman, One Percent Retirement Coordinator

Kim Bowman is joining the Association staff as the **One Percent Retirement Coordinator** in the new year. Kim is a familiar face to many retirement plan participants – she comes to us after over a decade at Toledano and Associates Inc. where she assisted with managing the One Percent Retirement accounts. She brings with her years of familiarity with 1% funds and, most importantly, you—our membership.

Kim joining the Association staff will help ease the transition of the plan's Third-Party Administrator. It was announced in May that the Retirement Board of Trustees voted unanimously to transition from Toledano and Associates Inc. and to contract with Milliman based on cost savings compared with services provided. In addition to the technology upgrades offered by Milliman, Kim's continued presence means you will get the same familiar, friendly, and knowledgeable customer service you expect and deserve.

"The Association could not be more fortunate in being able to retain a corner stone of our customer service success as we bring Kim Bowman into the realm of Association staff," Executive Director **Joe Palmer** commented.

President **Malcolm Burns** echoed Executive Director Palmer's sentiments.

“We are confident that with Kim’s knowledge and experience she can help guide us through this process as we transition from Toledano and Associates to our new Third-Part Administrator, Milliman, and continue to be the main point of contact for all One Percent Retirement Fund-related questions,” Burns said.

Kim is a native South Carolinian, born in Easley and raised in Liberty. She’s lived up and down the East coast but found herself back in Pickens County. Her professional background in accounting and banking made her the perfect fit at Toledano and Associates. She knows first-hand the importance of the Association and the One Percent Retirement Plans – her son-in-law is a South Carolina firefighter.

“The most enjoyable aspect of my time at Toledano and Associates has been the interaction with the firefighters of South Carolina,” Kim said. “What an honor it has been to serve them, and it has allowed me to show my appreciation to them for their service.”

The Association is confident that Kim’s presence will allow for a seamless transition from Toledano and Associates to Milliman, and we are excited to have her on staff.

“I am excited to continue to work with the firefighters and assisting them navigating through the One Percent Fund as they transition to the new format and online process,” Kim commented. “I have made a lot of new friends since I began this journey and cannot wait to make many more as the journey continues.”



Submit your award nominations!

As firefighters, you don't just have a job – you have a calling. We often hear the phrase "*I was just doing my job,*" but we recognize that your work is far from ordinary.

That's why we want to acknowledge firefighters at all stages of their careers for their exceptional leadership skills or acts of bravery. Nominate a deserving firefighter or crew for an award for the opportunity for us to recognize them at the state level.

Don't wait – award nominations are open until **January 31, 2024**. [Submit your nomination](#) today!



HEALTH & SAFETY BINGO

Mark each space with X when you've completed the task.

Clean/wash flashhood weekly	Perform/schedule annual wellness check	Prepare & cook a healthy meal	Wear seatbelt while in fire apparatus	Wash hands after call and before eating
Properly wear SCBA	Review/create fire incident rehab policy	Create and/or participate in a workout program	Use a spotter when backing	Take proper BSI precautions
Inspect/clean turnout gear	Don't use tobacco products/enroll in cessation program	FREE Upload a pic/video on social media of you completing a bingo card task & tag @scfirefighters	Review your department's Safety Policy	Wear gloves, eye & ear protection while using hose/equipment
Review II Best Practices to Reduce FF Cancer-IAFC	Read/review NIOSH report	Properly hydrate (8 glasses of water per day)	Conduct/participate in company fire-ground training	Wear high-visibility traffic vest while working in roadway
Perform self-check exam: testicular/breast	Review CDC's Heart Health Risk for Firefighters	Limit caffeine/energy drink intake	Perform apparatus/equipment checks to ensure safe working order	Watch SC FAST "About Us" Video

Name: _____ Department: _____

Rank: _____ Date completed: _____

Submit your completed bingo card to healthsafety@scfirefighters.org by January 1, 2024 to be entered into a prize drawing (limit 1 per person).

Time is ticking to submit your Health & Safety bingo card

The Health and Safety bingo card is a great way to have fun while encouraging your crew to prioritize safety. By completing the card, you'll not only enhance safety awareness but also be entered to win a giveaway.

Playing is simple: [print](#) out the bingo card and mark off each safety measure you follow. From using proper PPE to cooking healthy meals, each box contains essential actions that promote your overall well-being.

Please note that Health and Safety Bingo deviates from traditional bingo rules. The entire card must be filled out—not just one row or column—to be considered a valid entry.

By participating, you'll foster teamwork and camaraderie with the benefit of tracking important safety measures. Encourage friendly competition among your crew to see who can clear their bingo card first!

Download and print your Health and Safety Bingo card today to create a safer workplace environment. Submit completed cards to

healthsafety@scfirefighters.org by **January 1, 2024**. Stay tuned for the second round of bingo starting in the new year.

Best of luck!



FSIC course spotlight: Lithium Ion Battery Fires Response

The **Lithium-Ion Battery Fires Response** course during **Fire Service Improvement Conference** covers several types of batteries and modules, and students will delve into the mitigation concerns and techniques when fires occur. Throughout the course, you will witness demonstrations of lithium-ion battery fires and learn about different techniques of extinguishment.

Contamination problems and cancer concerns in the fire service will be addressed, and different real-world techniques that can help limit and mitigate these contamination hazards will be demonstrated.

The goal is to provide students with a better understanding of lithium-ion battery applications, fire mitigation techniques, and a general understanding of the cancer problem in the fire service, along with ways to reduce contamination. We will also present up-to-date and ongoing research on lithium-ion battery incidents and how they relate to our protective clothing.

[Register](#) for Lithium Ion Battery Fires Response on January 20, 2024 during FSIC.

From our partners

Check your email junk folder for survey from SLED

SLED earlier this month emailed a survey pertaining to NIMS to all South Carolina fire chiefs. If you are a fire chief and have not received the email, please check your junk or spam folder. The email was distributed via SurveyMonkey. Thank you for participating.



Register for a TIMs training near you

The **South Carolina Traffic Incident Management Network** is hosting several Traffic Incident Management courses over the next couple months. This training is **free** for all responders.

The course focuses on unified national best practices for traffic incident management. Additionally, the training provides a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach with safety as the primary focus.

Charleston offerings:

- [November 15, 2-5:30 p.m. in Charleston](#)
- [November 15, 6-9:30 p.m. in Charleston](#)
- [November 16, 2-5:30 p.m. in Charleston](#)
- [November 16, 6-9:30 p.m. in Charleston](#)

Beaufort offerings:

- [December 11, 1-4:30 p.m. in Beaufort](#)
- [December 14, 1-4:30 p.m. in Beaufort](#)
- [December 15, 1-4:30 p.m. in Beaufort](#)

Myrtle Beach offering:

- [January 26, 2024, 8:30 a.m.-noon in Myrtle Beach](#)

For questions or to schedule a TIMs training, please contact [Ray Parker](#), SC DOT TIM Coordinator, or [Jeff Allen](#), AECOM Traffic Incident Management.



Dues, Voting Members, + Forms reminder

Association membership dues invoices were mailed last month, but that's not the only administrative task departments must complete in order to remain in Good Standing with the Association.

The due date for your department's Association membership dues invoice is **January 1, 2024**. In addition, **Voting Members must be selected by January 1, 2024**, in accordance with the by-law changes voted and approved by your delegates at the 2020 Fire-Rescue Conference.

Forms 206 and 207 are due midnight on January 31, 2024 on the Association's Member Management System (MMS). Your department's Profile & Statistician Report Form 101 should also be completed within the MMS. **All forms must be completed no later than midnight January 31, 2024, for your department to remain a member in good standing with the Association.** If we do not receive the forms by the deadline, your department will jeopardize their Firemen's Insurance & Inspection Fund distribution and the loss of Association Member Benefits.

As always, we're here to help. Give us a call at (803) 454-1800 or email us at info@scfirefighters.org.



Happy Veterans Day!

On Saturday, November 11, we honor the brave men and women who have served our country and protected our freedoms—we are forever grateful for your sacrifice and dedication to our nation.

To our veterans, we thank you, and Happy Veterans Day!

Our office is closed tomorrow, Friday, November 10, in observation of the holiday. Normal business hours resume Monday.

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- [January 18-21 - Fire Service Improvement Conference](#)
- February 3, 2024 - Firefighter Memorial Service
- [March 3-8, 2024 - Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer 24-01](#)
- April 17, 2024 - Legislative Day
- [June 12-15, 2024 - Fire-Rescue](#)



South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

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