

OFFICERS

Mike RichardsonPresident
1705 S State St - Decatur, TX 76234-2745

Tim Smith First Vice President
PO Box 98044 - Lubbock, TX 79499-8044

Richard Van Winkle..... Second Vice President
PO Box 296 - Alvarado, TX 76009-0296

Chuck Richardson Third Vice President
3523 County Road 245 - Brazoria, TX 77422-7276

Donny Boggs Fourth Vice President
1664 FM 935 - Lott, TX 76656-3891

Brent Allen Secretary
PO Box 227 - Ballinger, TX 76821

F. Jim White Assistant Secretary
304 E Mundy St - Overton, TX 75684-1734

Ben Kennedy Chaplain
4210 Camber Ct - College Station, TX 77845

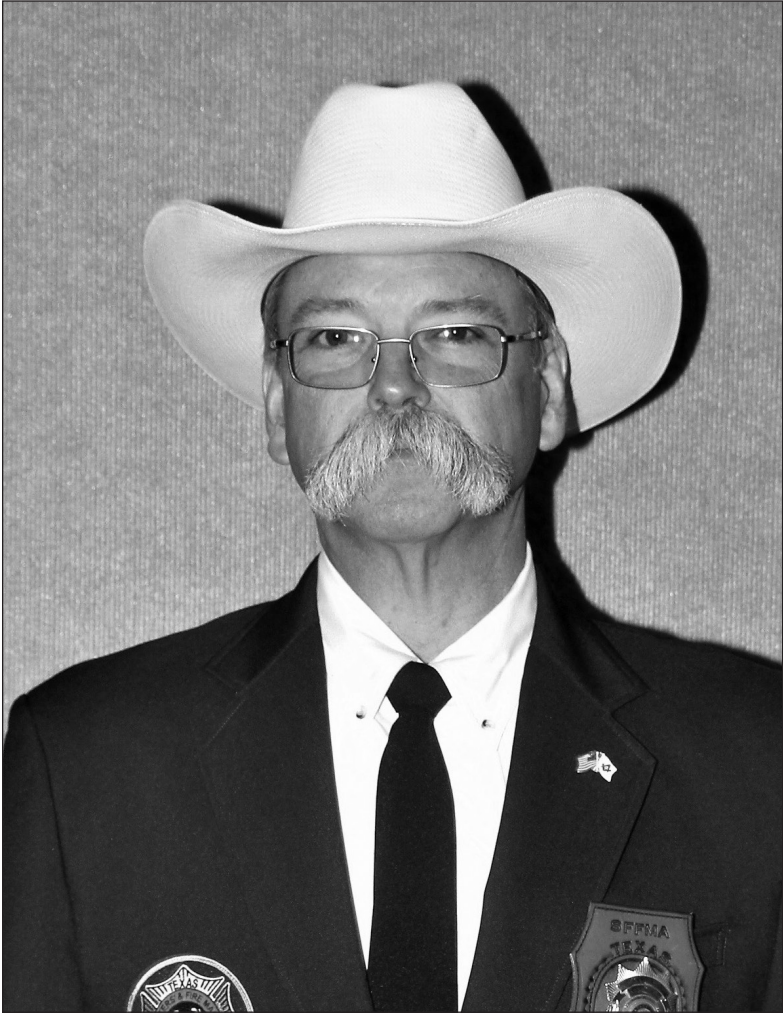
Harvie Cheshire Immediate Past President
1100 Merry Oaks Dr - College Station, TX 77840-2607

Chris Barron Executive Director
PO Box 1709 - Manchaca, TX 78652-1709

Rayford GibsonBoard Appointed Parliamentarian
PO Box 774 - Tatum, TX 75691

Kylie Maples Mascot
3400 Stevenwood Ln - Alvin, TX 77511





MIKE RICHARDSON
President, Decatur



TIM SMITH

1st Vice President, West Carlisle



RICHARD VAN WINKLE

2nd Vice President, Alvarado



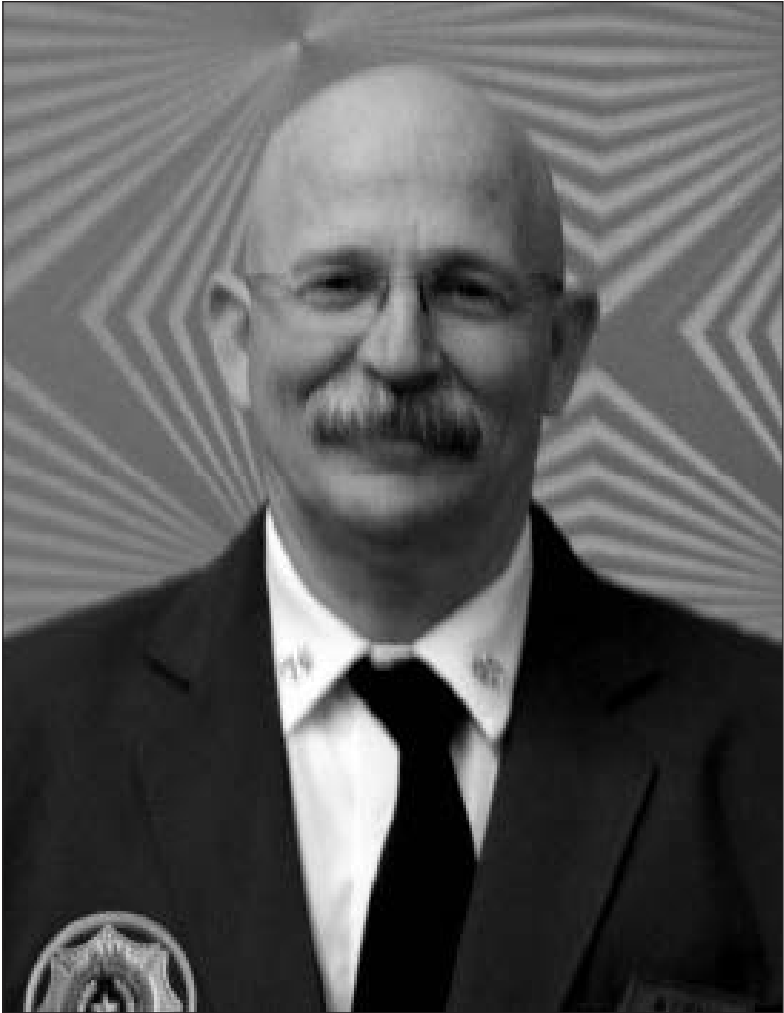
CHUCK RICHARDSON

3rd Vice President, Brazoria



DONNY BOGGS

4th Vice President, Lott



BRENT ALLEN

Secretary, Ballinger



F. JIM WHITE
Assistant Secretary, Overton



BEN KENNEDY
Chaplain, College Station



HARVIE CHESHIRE

Immediate Past President, College Station



CHRIS BARRON
Executive Director, Austin



RAYFORD GIBSON

Board Appointed Parliamentarian, Tatum



KYLIE MAPLES

Mascot, Alvin

SFFMA STAFF

- Chris Barron** Executive Director
- Jon Barron** Facilitator/Special Projects
- Julie Beauchamp** Sales Department Manager
- Kevin Creamer** Certification Administrator/
Industrial Coordinator
- Heather Lundy** Administrative Assistant
- Luis Martinez** Membership Coordinator/
SFFMA International

LIFE MEMBERS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| *J. Ed. Schmitz..... | Dallas |
| *Gust Depmore..... | Galveston |
| *Jno. J. Boerum..... | Corpus Christi |
| *W. P. Walker..... | Luling |
| *Roger Byrne..... | Smithville |
| *C. E. Jenkins..... | Bryan |
| *Mrs. J. R. Porte..... | San Marcos |
| *C. M. Bailey..... | Gainesville |
| *Jno. L. Brunner..... | Taylor |
| *W. E. Bidiker..... | Fort Worth |
| *Jos. Stumpf..... | Fort Worth |
| *J. P. Schneider..... | Austin |
| *W. L. Talbot..... | San Marcos |
| *Mr. Meyer of the Metro Studios..... | Hollywood, CA |
| *Olin Culberson..... | Edna |
| *G. N. Holton..... | Austin |
| *P. J. Goodlett..... | Georgetown |
| *H. W. Speckels..... | La Grange |
| *L. B. Warren..... | Belton |
| *Jno. S. McKinney..... | McKinney |
| *Louis H. Scholl..... | New Braunfels |
| *W. P. Hallmark..... | Dublin |
| *V. S. Fritz..... | Victoria |
| *Rev. J. C. Felger..... | Victoria |
| *M. L. O. Andrews..... | Houston |
| *T. S. Wright..... | Temple |
| *W. F. Hamner..... | Belton |
| *J. A. Caldwell..... | San Angelo |
| *E. V. Easterling..... | Del Rio |
| *Frank Williams..... | Austin |
| *D. B. Clark..... | Beaumont |
| *E. P. Hall..... | Weatherford |
| *R. R. Talbert..... | Mercedes |
| *Lewis Haynes..... | San Marcos |
| *G. E. Dalton..... | Coleman |
| *Frederick Klopp..... | Taylor |
| *J. J. Blackstone..... | Burkburnett |
| *I. W. Speckels..... | Schulenberg |
| *Chester Cherry..... | Ballinger |

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| *Hugh Nation | Crosbyton |
| *T. E. "Red" Lewis | Electra |
| *Royce C. Hogg | Gilmer |
| *G. F. Dohrn | Mission |
| *Adolph Solmky | Seguin |
| *N. W. Autry | Snyder |
| *John Dean | Plano |
| *John Ballew | Childress |
| *J. C. Swadley | Grand Prairie |
| *C. P. Churchwell | Richardson |
| *Paul B. Conley | Luling |
| *Elbert Sanders | Edinburg |
| *David Clabaugh | Carthage |
| *Leo Bales | Lampasas |
| *Mason Lankford | Arlington |
| *Leon Powell | Junction |
| *C. H. Boring, Jr | Rosenberg |
| *Vernon Rucker | Killeen |
| *W. E. "Bill" Zorn | Del Rio |
| *Palmer West | Eldorado |
| *Norvall Terry | Weatherford |
| *Carroll B. Shumaker | Alamo |
| *Earl Phillips | Hereford |
| *Hal H. Hood | Dallas |
| *Bob Murphey | Nacogdoches |
| *Hubert Gorubec | Granger |
| *Garland Fulbright | San Antonio |
| *Elsworth Greer | Imperial |
| Billy R. Haynes | Livingston |
| *Ewald W. Pietsch | Seguin |
| *Mike B. Perez, Jr | Laredo |
| *Odis L. Chappel | Deer Park |
| *Robert S. O'Burke | Duncanville |
| *Ed Smith | Channelview |
| *Bill Barrett | Spur |
| *Tinker Taylor | McKinney |
| *Jack King | Huntsville |
| *Dayne Hill | Edinburg |
| *Marvin Setzer | Brazoria |
| Ray Williamson | Wharton |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| *Robert Stubblefield | Killeen |
| Bob Looney | Mansfield |
| *Tommy Bledsoe | Lone Star Steel |
| Ernest O. Reesing, Jr | Alpine |
| Gerald Matheaus | Rosenberg |
| *W. F. "Windy" Acosta..... | Del Rio |
| Billy Ray Mize..... | Burkburnett |
| J. E. "Dinks" Eckert..... | Floydada |
| D. J. "Don" Hoffman | Brenham |
| *Don Eernisse..... | Alvin |
| Deloss "Dee" Edwards..... | Abilene |
| *W. J. "Jim" Davis | Rockdale |
| Patrick Hlavaty | El Campo |
| *Ben Norman | Killeen |
| Terry Mayfield..... | Seguin |
| Dallas Renfrew | Seminole |
| Mike Looney | Mansfield |
| *Richard Harmon..... | Wichita Falls |
| C. T. "Tommy" Anderson..... | Santa Fe |
| David Luedeke | Needville |
| R. D. "Bo" Welborn..... | Silsbee |
| *Thomas Harwell | Cameron |
| Kyle Stephens | Decatur |
| *Donnie Pickard..... | Ovilla |
| Shawn Snider | Edinburg |
| Kent Watts, Jr. | Luling |
| *Bryan Rickert..... | Carthage |
| Rex Klesel | Alvin |
| David Wade | Deer Park |
| Bill Gardner | Leander |
| Rusty Kattner | Santa Fe |
| Paul Hamilton..... | Bushland |
| Henry Perry | Bastrop |
| Harvie Cheshire..... | College Station |
| Mike Richardson | Decatur |

*Deceased

CONVENTION CITIES AND PAST PRESIDENTS

- 1.....1876..... Austin *W. C. Conner, Dallas
- 2.....1877..... Dallas *W. C. Conner, Dallas
- 3.....1878
- 4.....1879.....Houston..... *W. C. Conner, Dallas
- 5.....1880.....San Antonio *W. C. Conner, Dallas
- 6.....1881
- 7.....1882.....Brenham
- 8.....1883
- 9.....1884.....Ft.Worth.....
- 10.....1885
- 11.....1886.....Gainesville
- 12.....1887..... Temple.....
- 13.....1888.....El Paso *W. J. Austin, Denton
- 14.....1889.....Paris *C. E. Fruin, F.P., El Paso
- 15.....1890.....Palestine *Jake W. Levy, Sherman
- 16.....1891.....Houston..... *Jake W. Levy, Sherman
- 17.....1892.....Waco *Jake W. Levy, Sherman
- 18.....1893.....Austin *E. S. Connor, Paris
- 19.....1894.....Fort Worth *E. E. Taylor, Georgetown
- 20.....1895.....Houston..... *Jno. Julian, El Paso
- 21.....1896.....Austin *Ed R. Krone, San Marcos
- 22.....1897.....El Paso *Carl F. Drake, Austin
- 23.....1898.....Waco *W. N. Norwood, Navasota
- 24.....1899.....Paris *Dr. Pitt S. Turner, Belton
- 25.....1900.....Waxahachie..... *Lee J. Rountree, Taylor
- 26.....1901.....Sherman *W. M. Abernathy, McKinney
- 27.....1902.....Waco *O. C. Connor, Paris
- 28.....1903.....Corsicana..... *J. R. Porter, San Marcos
- 29.....1904.....Waco *Geo. R. King, Marlin
- 30.....1905.....Austin *J. E. Kaufmann, Austin
- 31.....1906.....Mineral Wells. *E. P. Coopwood, Lockhart
- 32.....1907.....McKinney..... *Perry Hawkin, Taylor
- 33.....1908.....Waco *T. A. Bledsoe, Abilene
- 34.....1909.....Gainesville *M. L. Andrews, Navasota
- 35.....1910..... Temple..... *Lee Wilson, Waco

- 36.....1911.....Waco *W. T. Hunt, Dublin
37.....1912.....Austin *Jno. S. McKinney, McKinney
38.....1913.....Wichita Falls ... *H. W. Speckels, La Grange
39.....1914.....Victoria *U. B. Warren, Belton
40.....1915.....Waco *Peter Schramm, Taylor
41.....1916.....New Braunfels *H. J. Braunig, Hallettsville
42.....1917.....San Angelo *T. S. Wright, Temple
.....1918.....(No Convention, World War)
43.....1919.....Cuero *Roger Byrne, Smithville
44.....1920.....Hillsboro *W. D. McCully, Brownwood
45.....1921.....Weatherford *G. J. Kempen, Seguin
46.....1922.....Brownwood *V. S. Fritz, Victoria
47.....1923.....San Marcos *W. P. Hallmark, Dublin
48.....1924.....McKinney *Frank Baker, Lampasas
49.....1925.....Cisco *T. W. Falkenburg, Taylor
50.....1926.....Harlingen *R. F. Hever, Cuero
51.....1927.....San Antonio *W. E. Burgess, Itasca
52.....1928.....Denton *Frank Hammer, Belton
53.....1929.....Galveston *J. A. Caldwell, Teague
54.....1930.....San Angelo *John Parker, San Angelo
55.....1931.....Bryan *C. E. Jenkins, Bryan
56.....1932.....Austin *E. V. Esterling, Del Rio
57.....1933.....Corpus Christi... *Frank Williams, Winters
58.....1934.....Mineral Wells *C. N. Humason, Lufkin
59.....1935.....El Paso *D. B. Clark, Beaumont
60.....1936.....Fort Worth *E. P. Hall, Weatherford
61.....1937.....Port Arthur *R. R. Talbert, Weslaco
62.....1938.....Amarillo *Lewis Haynes, San Marcos
63.....1939.....Harlingen.. *G. E. "Kelly" Dalton, Coleman
64.....1940.....Houston..... *Frederick Klopp, Taylor
65.....1941.....Wichita Falls *J. J. Blackstone, Burkburnett
66.....1942.....Corpus Christi.... *I. W. Speckels, Schulenburg
67.....1943.....Waco *Chester Cherry, Ballinger
68.....1944.....Waco *Hugh Nation, Crosbyton
69.....1945.....Waco
(Executive Committee Conference, World War)
70.....1946.....Waco *T. E. "Red" Lewis, Electra
71.....1947.....Amarillo *Royce C. Hogg, Gilmer
72.....1948.....San Antonio *G. F. Dohrn, Mission

- 73....1949.....Galveston *Adolph Solmky, Seguin
- 74....1950.....Wichita Falls *N. W. Autry, Snyder
- 75....1951.....Dallas *John Dean, Plano
- 76....1952.....San Antonio *John Ballew, Childress
- 77....1953.....Austin *J. C. Swadley, Grand Prairie
- 78....1954.....San Antonio *C. P. Churchwell, Richardson
- 79....1955.....Dallas *Paul B. Conley, Luling
- 80....1956.....Edinburg *Elbert Sanders, Edinburg
- 81....1957.....Waco *David Clabaugh, Carthage
- 82....1958.....San Antonio *Leo Bales, Lampasas
- 83....1959.....Fort Worth *Mason Lankford, Arlington
- 84....1960.....Galveston *Leon Powell, Junction
- 85....1961.....Austin *C. H. Boring, Rosenberg
- 86....1962.....McAllen..... *Vernon Rucker, Killeen
- 87....1963.....San Antonio *W. E. "Bill" Zorn, Del Rio
- 88....1964.....Dallas *Palmer West, Eldorado
- 89....1965.....Laredo..... *Norvall Terry, Weatherford
- 90....1966.....Fort Worth *Carroll B. Shumaker, Alamo
- 91....1967.....Lubbock *Earl Phillips, Hereford
- 92....1968.....Austin *Hal H. Hood, Dallas County
- 93....1969.....McAllen..... *Bob Murphey, Nacogdoches
- 94....1970.....San Antonio *Hubert Gorubec, Granger
- 95....1971.....Dallas *Garland Fulbright, San Antonio
- 96....1972.....Galveston *Elsworth Greer, Imperial
- 97....1973.....Brownsville..... Billy R. Haynes, Livingston
- 98....1974.....Laredo..... *Ewald W. Pietsch, Seguin
- 99....1975.....Houston..... *Mike B. Perez, Jr., Laredo
- 100....1976.....Austin..... *Odis Chappell, Deer Park
- 101....1977.....Longview *Robert S. O'Burke, Duncanville
- 102....1978.....Lubbock *Ed Smith, Channelview
- 103....1979.....McAllen *Bill Barrett, Spur
- 104....1980.....Dallas *Tinker Taylor, McKinney
- 105....1981.....San Antonio..... *Jack King, Huntsville
- 106....1982.....Abilene..... *Dayne Hill, Edinburg
- 107....1983.....Beaumont *Marvin Setzer, Brazoria
- 108....1984.....McAllen Ray Williamson, Wharton
- 109....1985.....Waco..... *Robert Stubblefield, Killeen
- 110....1986.....Austin..... Bob Looney, Mansfield
- 111....1987.....Amarillo..... *Tommy Bledsoe, Lone Star

- 112.....1988.....Beaumont Ernest O. Reesing, Jr., Alpine
 113.....1989.....Arlington..... Gerald Matheaus, Rosenberg
 114.....1990.....El Paso..... *W. F. "Windy" Acosta, Del Rio
 115.....1991.....Longview..... Billy Ray Mize, Burkburnett
 116.....1992..... McAllen J. E. "Dinks" Eckert, Floydada
 117.....1993.....Waco..... D. J. "Don" Hoffman, Brenham
 118.....1994.....Beaumont *Don Eernisse, Alvin
 119.....1995.....Abilene..... Deloss "Dee" Edwards, Abilene
 120.....1996.....Amarillo..... *W. J. "Jim" Davis, Rockdale
 121.....1997.....Galveston..... Patrick Hlavaty, El Campo
 122.....1998.....Wichita Falls..... *Ben Norman, Jr., Killeen
 123.....1999.....Lubbock Terry Mayfield, Seguin
 124.....2000.....Waco..... Dallas Renfrew, Seminole
 125.....2001.....McAllen Mike Looney, Mansfield
 126.....2002.....Beaumont ... *Richard Harmon, Wichita Falls
 127.....2003.....Galveston..... C. T. Anderson, Santa Fe
 128.....2004.....Corpus Christi .. David Luedeke, Needville
 129.....2005.....Wichita Falls... R. D. "Bo" Welborn, Silsbee
 130.....2006.....Waco..... *Thomas Harwell, Cameron
 131.....2007.....Amarillo..... Kyle Stephens, Decatur
 132.....2008.....Beaumont..... *Donnie Pickard, Ovilla
 133.....2009.....McAllen..... Shawn Snider, Edinburg
 134.....2010.....Corpus Christi Kent Watts, Jr., Luling
 135.....2011.....Mesquite *Bryan Rickert, Carthage
 136.....2012.....Houston Rex Klesel, Alvin
 137.....2013.....The Woodlands David Wade, Deer Park
 138.....2014.....Lubbock..... Bill Gardner, Leander
 139.....2015.....Galveston..... Rusty Kattner, Santa Fe
 140.....2016.....McAllen..... Paul Hamilton, Potter County
 141.....2017.....San Marcos Henry Perry, Bastrop
 142.....2018.....Arlington ... Harvie Cheshire, College Station
 143.....2019.....Longview Mike Richardson, Decatur

HONORARY MEMBERS

- *Mother George FerrisFt. Worth
- *Father P. A. Heckman Waco
- *Dr. W. B. Goodner Dublin
- *Jay W. StevensFire Prevention Chief, National Board
of Fire Underwriters San Francisco, CA
- *Col. H. R. Brayton..... College Station
- *Sidney L. Kring Wichita Falls
- *Fred J. BensonDean of Engineering,
.....Texas A&M University, College Station
- A. M. AikenParis
- J. P. Word..... Meridian
- Murray Watson Waco
- W. S. Heatly Paducah
- *Herman Howerts Luling
- *John Traeger Seguin
- Don AdamsJasper
- Rick PerryHaskell

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

- *Henry D. Smith College Station
- *Kenneth GreenDeer Park
- *W. A. Weniger Beeville
- R. R. "Bob" Doolittle, Sr La Marque
- *Haskin V. LittleHouston
- Allen RussellCedar Hill
- *Wayne Popp Louise
- Vic Einspahr..... Beeville
- Richard Van Winkle Alvarado
- Les Bunte College Station
- Allen ScopelRosenberg
- Barbara Marzean Austin

**Deceased*

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 110..... | 1986..... | Austin | *James L. "Jody" Evans, Eden |
| 111..... | 1987..... | Amarillo | Charles Ray Sims, Cedar Hill |
| 112..... | 1988..... | Beaumont..... | *Tom Watson, Haskell |
| 113..... | 1989..... | Arlington..... | *Les Collins, El Campo |
| 114..... | 1990..... | El Paso | Clayton W. "Bill" Day, Kermit |
| 115..... | 1991..... | Longview | Jerry Lee Rust, Del Rio |
| 116..... | 1992..... | McAllen..... | *Gary Alan Tilton, Richmond |
| 117..... | 1993..... | Waco | *Alfred E. Gerik, West |
| 118..... | 1994..... | Beaumont..... | Carl Teaff, Sonora |
| 119..... | 1995..... | Abilene..... | Mike Hafer, Richmond |
| 120..... | 1996..... | Amarillo | Johnny Merrill, Winters |
| 121..... | 1997..... | Galveston..... | Alex Kvapil, Ballinger |
| 122..... | 1998..... | Wichita Falls | *Donnie Pickard, Ovilla |
| 123..... | 1999..... | Lubbock | *Fred Ramirez, Raymondville |
| 124..... | 2000..... | Waco | Don Pullin, Refugio |
| 125..... | 2001..... | McAllen | Jerry Mutschler, Seminole |
| 126..... | 2002..... | Beaumont..... | Ken Kvapil, Ballinger |
| 127..... | 2003..... | Galveston..... | Kip Workman, La Vernia |
| 128..... | 2004..... | Corpus Christi... | Matthew Cornell, Pecan Grove |
| 129..... | 2005..... | Wichita Falls | Patrick Hlavaty, El Campo |
| 130..... | 2006..... | Waco | Perry Thomson, Jr., Anson |
| 131..... | 2007..... | Amarillo | Ricardo Saldana, Mission |
| 132..... | 2008..... | Beaumont | Anthony Cargile, Santa Fe |
| 133..... | 2009..... | McAllen | Ubaldo D. Perez, Edinburg |
| 134..... | 2010..... | Corpus Christi | Richard Drewry, Edinburg |
| 135..... | 2011..... | Mesquite | Richard Van Winkle, Alvarado |
| 136..... | 2012..... | Houston | Clemente Sanchez, Sinton |
| 137..... | 2013..... | The Woodlands | Dennis Gage, Kilgore |
| 138 | 2014..... | Lubbock | David Wade, Deer Park |
| 139 | 2015..... | Galveston..... | Shawn Snider, Edinburg |
| 140 | 2016..... | McAllen | Curtis Brown, Dalhart |
| 141 | 2017..... | San Marcos | Alonzo Morales, Goliad |
| 142 | 2018..... | Arlington | Steven Loving, Ingleside |
| 143 | 2019..... | Longview | Richard Alvarado, Seminole |

EMS FIRST RESPONDER OF THE YEAR

- 136.....2012.....HoustonKaren Pickard, Ovilla
- 137.....2013.....The WoodlandsEdward J. Konick, III, Alvarado
- 1382014.....LubbockJames Carr, Decatur
- 139.....2015.....GalvestonGerald Weniger, McQueeney
- 140.....2016.....McAllenTim Keirn, Chisholm Trail
- 141.....2017.....San Marcos Scott White, Hartley
- 142.....2018.....ArlingtonTerry Hanks, Friberg-Cooper
- 143.....2019.....LongviewTim Schafer, Hartley

**Deceased*

BOARDS 2018/2019

CERTIFICATION BOARD

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Brian Scheffer, <i>Chairman, Zone 1</i> | Brenham |
| Andy Dexter, <i>Co-Chairman, Zone 18</i> | Spring |
| R.J. Thomas, <i>Secretary/Zone 4</i> | Ingleside |
| Edwin Baker, <i>Zone 2</i> | Stockdale |
| Frank Marcinkiewicz, <i>Zone 3</i> | Cat Spring |
| Ubaldo Perez, <i>Zone 5</i> | Edinburg |
| Kendall Hunting, <i>Zone 6</i> | Alvin |
| William Sylestine, <i>Zone 7</i> | Livingston |
| Patrick Dooley, <i>Zone 8</i> | Henderson |
| Brad Hargrove, <i>Zone 9</i> | Alvarado |
| Nate Mara, <i>Zone 10</i> | Decatur |
| Clay Deatherage, <i>Zone 11</i> | Anson |
| William Tidwell, <i>Zone 12</i> | Crosbyton |
| Jeromy Dawson, <i>Zone 13</i> | Brownfield |
| Brent Allen, <i>Zone 14</i> | Ballinger |
| Scott Garris, <i>Zone 15</i> | Pleasanton |
| Joshua Constancio, <i>Zone 16</i> | Olden |
| VACANT, <i>Zone 17</i> | |
| Curtis Brown, <i>Zone 19</i> | Dalhart |
| Cary Roccaforte, <i>TEEX Representative</i> | College Station |
| Gabriel Mahlum, <i>Texas A&M Forest Service Representative</i> | Killeen |
| Richard Van Winkle, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Alvarado |
| Kevin Creamer, <i>Staff Liaison</i> | Austin |

TEXAS INDUSTRIAL EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

- Keith Russell, *Chairman, SLOT - 04*..... Longview
- Robert Moore, *Vice Chairman, SLOT - 20* College Station
- Mark Turvey, *Secretary, SLOT - 16*..... League City
- Brett Steed, *SLOT - 01* Baytown
- John Hollaway, *SLOT - 02*..... Baytown
- Peter Greco, *SLOT - 03*.....Houston
- Todd Johnson, *SLOT - 05*Cibolo
- David Atkinson, Jr., *SLOT - 06*..... Longview
- Tim Graham, *SLOT - 07*..... Borger
- Paul Hannemann, *SLOT - 09* Fredericksburg
- Steve Pepper, *SLOT - 10*Humble
- Kevin Bryant, *SLOT - 11*..... Baytown
- Vacant, *SLOT - 12*.....
- David Cave, *SLOT - 13* Corpus Christi
- Mark Garvin, *SLOT-14*Friendswood
- Gordon Lohmeyer, *SLOT - 15* College Station
- Vacant, *SLOT - 17*.....
- Jeff Hoffstadt, *SLOT 18*..... San Antonio
- Chuck Richardson, *Executive Board Liaison*..... Brazoria
- Donny Boggs, *Executive Board Liaison* Lott
- David Wade, *Past President Liaison*Deer Park

TEXAS INDUSTRIAL EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD - CONTINUED

Chris Barron, *Executive Director* Austin
Kevin Creamer, *Staff Liaison* Austin

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL

Chris Barron, *State Director* Austin
Dallas Renfrew, *Alternate State Director* Harlingen

TEXAS A&M ADVISORY BOARD

Mike Montgomery Humble
Keith Russell Longview
Bill Gardner Leander
John Kiracofe Austin

2018-2019 COMMITTEES COMBINATION DEPARTMENT

Lynn BizzellFrederickburg
 Jason Scheel.....La Vernia
 Greg RoseberryIngleside
 Shawn Snider Edinburg
 Tim Gothard Anna
 Richard Van Winkle, *Executive Board Liaison* Alvarado
 Mike Richardson, *Executive Board Liaison*Decatur
 Chris Barron, *Executive Board Liaison*..... Austin

CONFERENCE TRAINING & SPEAKER COMMITTEE

Cary Roccaforte, *Chairman* Bryan
 Mike Montgomery, *Co-Chairman* Humble
 Bill Gardner..... Leander
 Mark Wobus La Grange
 Edwin Baker.....Stockdale
 Ubaldo Perez..... Edinburg
 Chuck Richardson..... Brazoria
 Roy Mercer Rosenberg
 Nate Mara.....Decatur
 Tim Smith, *Executive Board Liaison* West Carlisle
 Donny Boggs, *Executive Board Liaison*Lott
 David Wade, *Past President Liaison* Deer Park

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Cary Roccaforte | Bryan |
| J Paul Bruhn | La Grange |
| Tim Bogisch..... | Seguin |
| Ruben Balboa | Harlingen |
| Maricruz Tovar..... | Edinburg |
| William Crawford | Channelview |
| Donald Shoemaker..... | Lake Jackson |
| Van Fowler | Ennis |
| Louise Watts | Haslet |
| Rodney Ryalls..... | Burkburnett |
| David Luedeke, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Needville |
| Rusty Kattner, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | League City |
| Harvie Cheshire, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | College Station |
| Tim Smith, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | West Carlisle |
| Rayford Gibson, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Tatum |

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Danny Hurt, <i>Chairman</i> | Bloomburg |
| Teri Parkison..... | Brenham |
| Joe Ondrasek..... | Bryan |
| Scott Charbula | Louise |
| Dayna "Bert" Hill..... | Mathis |
| Tom Bell..... | Ingleside |
| Charles "Buck" Stevens..... | Pearland |
| Andy Van Dine..... | Alvin |
| William Crawford | Channelview |
| Dennis Gifford | Lumberton |
| Thomas Jones..... | Madisonville |
| Jeffrey Ballew | Fort Worth |

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

CONTINUED

Ryan Fetzer Wichita Falls
 Brent Allen, *Executive Board Liaison* Ballinger
 Bob Looney, *Past President Liaison* Mansfield

DRIVING CONTEST COMMITTEE

Michael Richter, *Chairman* Needville
 Ronnie Sexton Royse City
 Chris Yianitsas Industry
 Tammy Worthington La Vernia
 Scott Charbula Louise
 George Castillo Alamo
 Jonathan Burns Santa Fe
 Dennis Gage Longview
 Marc Nichols Gilmer
 John Robinson Retreat
 F. Jim White, *Executive Board Liaison* Overton
 David Luedeke, *Past President Liaison* Needville

EMS COMMITTEE

Andy Dexter, *Chairman* Spring
 Timothy Mantey Brenham
 Damon Benton South Bend
 Jason Loyd College Station
 Gerald Weniger Seguin
 Timothy Keirn Chisholm Trail
 Clemente Sanchez Sinton

EMS COMMITTEE CONTINUED

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Antonio Lopez | Weslaco |
| James Cardoza | Mission |
| Chuck Richardson..... | Brazoria |
| Dennis Gifford | Lumberton |
| Karen Pickard | Ovilla |
| James Carr | Decatur |
| Billie Smith | West Carlisle |
| Viola McHorse-Potter | Natalia |
| Tim Smith, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | West Carlisle |
| Chuck Richardson, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Brazoria |
| Bill Gardner, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Leander |

EXHIBITS COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Mark Lancaster, <i>Chairman</i> | Santa Fe |
| Raymond Murray, <i>Co-Chairman</i> | Shreveport |
| Quint Mantey | Brenham |
| Teri Parkison..... | Brenham |
| Clemente Sanchez | Sinton |
| Tito Rodriguez | Clute |
| Matthew Glaves | Alvin |
| Joel Sumrall | Santa Fe |
| Thomas Jones | Madisonville |
| Jerry Taylor | Gilmer |
| Wayland Price..... | Whitney |
| Cory Brinkley..... | Burkburnett |
| Alexander Smith..... | Clyde |
| Donny Boggs, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Lott |
| Shawn Snider, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Edinburg |
| Charles Gallatin, <i>Event Planner</i> | Austin |

FINANCE COMMITTEE

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Patrick Hlavaty, <i>Chairman</i> | El Campo |
| Melissa Robinson, <i>Co-Chairperson</i> | Corsicana |
| Rayford Gibson, <i>Secretary</i> | Tatum |
| Mark Wobus | Bastrop |
| Gregory Cross..... | College Station |
| Kent Watts, Jr. | Haslet |
| Dayna "Bert" Hill | Mathis |
| RJ Thomas | Ingleside |
| Ruben Balboa | Harlingen |
| Tommy Anderson..... | Santa Fe |
| Rusty Kattner..... | Santa Fe |
| Chuck Richardson..... | Brazoria |
| Allen Scopel | Rosenberg |
| James Philp..... | Lumberton |
| Mike Richardson | Decatur |
| Brent Allen | Ballinger |
| Jerry Rust..... | Del Rio |
| Morris Locknane | West Carlisle |
| Henry Perry, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Bastrop |
| Tim Smith, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | West Carlisle |
| Shawn Snider, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Edinburg |
| Rex Klesel, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Alvin |
| Kyle Stephens, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Decatur |
| Chris Barron, <i>Executive Director</i> | Austin |

FIREFIGHTER/EMS RESPONDER OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Ben Kennedy, <i>Co-Chairman</i> | College Station |
| Barbara Marzean, <i>Co-Chairwoman</i> | Austin |

FF/EMS RESPONDER OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE CONTINUED

- Curtis Brown.....Dalhart
- Scott WhiteHartley
- Alonzo Morales,Jr.Goliad
- Steven LovingSinton
- Terry HanksWichita Falls

FIRE MARSHAL COMMITTEE

- Frankie Joe Salinas, *Chairman*Edinburg
- Michael Kennon, *Co-Chairman*West Carlisle
- Gerald Burnett Bryan
- Nathan MendenhallSan Antonio
- Paul Lesak Ganado
- Steven Loving.....Ingleside
- Mike Montgomery Humble
- Christopher Wilson Tomball
- Clif MeekinsLa Porte
- Jim Philp Lumberton
- Steven Deffibaugh Princeton
- Deroy Bennett Decatur
- Harvie Cheshire, *Executive Board Liaison*..... College Station
- Rusty Kattner, *Executive Board Liaison*Santa Fe

GOLF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

- Lang Flisowski, *Co-Chairman*..... Brenham
- Brian Scheffer Brenham
- John Schulze..... Brenham
- Gregory Nienstedt Brenham

GOLF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE CONTINUED

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Lynn Bizzell | Fredericksburg |
| Brian Janes..... | Brenham |
| Cody Neutzler | Brenham |
| Lloyd Klatt | El Campo |
| Greg Roseberry..... | Ingleside |
| William Sylestine..... | Livingston |
| Chris Moore | Chandler |
| William Norris, II | Burkburnett |
| Paul Hamilton, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Potter County |
| Patrick Hlavaty, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | El Campo |

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| David Wade, <i>Chairman</i> | Deer Park |
| Ward Roddam | Rockdale |
| Howard Meek..... | College Station |
| Chris Kehl | Navasota |
| Louise Watts | Haslet |
| Bernard Scott | Ganado |
| Timothy Bogisch | Seguin |
| Roy Mercer | Rosenberg |
| Dennis Gifford | Lumberton |
| Donald Lindsey | Terrell |
| Danny Kistner..... | McKinney |
| Nate Mara | Decatur |
| Mark Turvey, <i>Industrial Board Liaison</i> | League City |
| Timothy Smith, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | West Carlisle |
| Henry Perry, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Bastrop |

INTERNATIONAL MEMBER COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Felix Carrillo Peña, <i>Chairman</i> | Venezuela |
| Rolando Reyes | Edinburg |
| Oskar Alanis | Edinburg |
| Roberto Rojas, Jr. | Hidalgo |
| German Lopez | Houston |
| Carlos Acevedo Cházaro..... | Mexico |
| Mike Richardson, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Decatur |
| Shawn Snider, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Edinburg |
| Luis Martinez, <i>Staff Liaison</i> | Austin |

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Ben Kennedy, <i>Co-Chairman</i> | College Station |
| Donny Boggs, <i>Co-Chairman</i> | Lott |
| Mike Richardson, <i>President</i> | Decatur |
| Brandy Tidwell, <i>TFA President</i> | Crosbyton |
| Anggie Sumrall, <i>TFA Immediate Past President</i> | Santa Fe |
| Billie Smith, <i>TFA Past President</i> | West Carlisle |
| Mary Jane Cargile, <i>Auxiliary Chaplain</i> | Santa Fe |
| Gerardo Gomez | Alamo |
| Anthony Cargile..... | Santa Fe |
| Jim Cargile..... | Santa Fe |
| Steven Loving | Ingleside |
| Kris Hester | Merkel |
| Debbie Richardson..... | Decatur |
| Morris Locknane | West Carlisle |
| Harvie Cheshire, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | College Station |
| Bill Gardner, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Leander |
| Ernest O. Reesing, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Alpine |
| Patrick Hlavaty, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | El Campo |
| Kylie Maples | Alvin |

GARY TILTON MEMORIAL FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Nancy Hall, <i>Chairwoman</i> | Gilmer |
| Billy Jo Jasinski | Burton |
| Isidore Moy | Floresville |
| Anthony Moy | Floresville |
| Alonzo Morales | Goliad |
| Elena Sanchez | Sinton |
| Donna Loving..... | Ingleside |
| Frankie Joe Salinas | Edinburg |
| Dawn Rodriguez..... | La Villa |
| Jonathan Burns | Santa Fe |
| William Sylestine | Livingston |
| Frankie Smith | Madisonville |
| Kenneth Isom | Ennis |
| Stephanie Humberd | Burkburnett |
| DeNisa Brown..... | Dalhart |
| Maray Cearley | Sonora |
| LaTresha Allen | Ballinger |
| Carl Teaff | Sonora |
| Kristopher Hester..... | Merkel |
| Billy Ray Mize, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Burkburnett |
| Terry Mayfield, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Seguin |

PUMPER RACE COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Stephen Donnelly, <i>Overall Chairman</i> | Pearland |
| Henry Horelica, <i>3 Man Chairman</i> | Cameron |
| Gary Williams, <i>3-6 Ladies Chairman</i> | Pasadena |
| Alvin Fail, IV | Cameron |
| Frank Rubio | Rockdale |
| Gerald Weniger | Seguin |
| Frank Marcinkiewicz | Cat Springs |
| RC Flores | McAllen |

PUMPER RACE COMMITTEE CONTINUED

Gene Maples Alvin
 Jeffery Thomson Alvin
 Glenn Johnson Center
 Stephanie Humbert Burkburnett
 Leslie Nixon, *TFA Liaison* West Carlisle
 Paul Hamilton, *Executive Board Liaison* Potter County
 David Luedeke, *Past President Liaison* Needville
 Gerald Matheaus, *Past President Liaison* Rosenberg

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS COMMITTEE

Robert Kleen, *Chairman* Blanket
 Matthew Cornell, *Co-Chairman* Pecan Grove
 Brian Chenault Burton
 Sara Harborth Kingsbury
 Melissa Sanchez Sinton
 Tomas Sanchez Sinton
 Gerardo Gomez Alamo
 Anthony Cargile Santa Fe
 Elton Thornell Pearland
 James Cargile Santa Fe
 Daniel Hernandez Lumberton
 Steve Heim Ore City
 David Andrusick Center
 Donald "Cowboy" Wiley Floydada
 Pat Olivas Fort Davis
 Rickey Cearley Sonora
 Peter Duran Sonora
 Cory Bradley Natalia
 Henry Perry, *Executive Board Liaison* Bastrop
 Terry Mayfield, *Past President Liaison* Seguin
 Billy Ray Mize, *Past President Liaison* Burkburnett

SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

- Mike Richardson, *President*Decatur
- Chuck Richardson, *3rd Vice President*Brazoria
- Kyle Stephens, *Past President Liaison*Decatur
- Chris Barron, *Executive Director* Austin
- Charles Gallatin, *Event Planner* Austin

STEERING COMMITTEE

- Ryan Hudson.....Leander
- Andy Dexter..... Spring
- RC Flores McAllen
- Chris Anderson Santa Fe
- Brad Hargrove.....Alvarado
- Nate Mara..... Decatur
- Rodney Ryalls.....Burkburnett
- Kristopher Hester.....Merkel
- Billy Tidwell..... Crosbytown
- Mike Richardson, *Executive Board Liaison* Decatur
- Tim Smith, *Executive Board Liaison*.....West Carlisle
- Bill Gardner, *Past President Liaison*Leander

T★FLAG COMMITTEE

- Bill Gardner, *Co-Chairman*.....Leander
- Ryan Hudson.....Leander
- Kent Watts.....Luling
- Edwin Baker..... Stockdale
- Don McFarland..... Seguin
- R. J. Thomas Ingleside
- Rusty Kattner..... League City
- Kendall Hunting..... Alvin
- Jeffery Thomson..... Alvin

T★FLAG COMMITTEE

CONTINUED

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Jason January, Jr. | Huntsville |
| Keith Tate | Flint |
| Christine Rogalski | Ennis |
| Clay Deatherage | Anson |
| Billy Tidwell..... | Crosbytown |
| Charles Garris..... | Pleasanton |
| Brent Allen, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Ballinger |
| Donny Boggs, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Lott |
| Ben Kennedy, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | College Station |
| Chuck Richardson, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Brazoria |
| Mike Richardson, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Decatur |
| Tim Smith, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | West Carlisle |
| Richard Van Winkle, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Alvarado |
| F. Jim White, <i>Executive Board Liaison</i> | Overton |
| Henry Perry, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Bastrop |
| Paul Hamilton, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Potter County |
| Shawn Snider, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Edinburg |
| Kyle Stephens, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Decatur |
| Chris Barron, <i>Executive Director</i> | Austin |
| JPete Laney, <i>Legislative Representative</i> | Austin |

TCFP BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Robert Moore, <i>Presiding Officer</i> | College Station |
| Tommy Anderson, <i>Past President Liaison</i> | Santa Fe |
| John McMakin, <i>Commissioner</i> | LaRue |
| Lenny Perez, <i>Commissioner</i> | Brownsville |

TCFP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mike Wisko, *Assistant Presiding Officer*Galveston
JP Steelman..... Longview
Keith SchmidtGonzales
Ken Swindle Krum

MEMORIAL SERVICE

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Procession | Longview FD & Pharr FD Pipes & Drums |
| Honor Guard | Decatur Fire Department Color Guard |
| Call to Order | Mike Richardson , SFFMA President |
| Presentation of Colors | Taylor Fire Department Color Guard |
| Invocation | John Robinson , 4 th VP North Texas District |
| Memorial Res. Reading..... | Bill Gardner , Past President 2014 |
| Bell Ceremony Reading | Ben Kennedy , SFFMA Chaplain |
| Musical Selection | Patti Jones , TFA 2 nd Vice President |
| Line of Duty Death Roll Call | Patrick Hlavaty , Past President 1997 |
| Firefighter Roll Call | Patrick Hlavaty , Past President 1997 |
| Auxiliary Reading | Mary Jane Cargile , TFA Chaplain |
| Auxiliary Roll Call | Mary Jane Cargile , TFA Chaplain |
| Musical Selection | Patti Jones , TFA 2 nd Vice President |
| Bell Ringer..... | Jim Cargile , Sergeant-At-Arms |
| Light Operator | Jerry Gomez , Sergeant -At-Arms |
| Placing Flowers | Debbie Richardson , SFFMA President's Wife |
| Placing Flowers | Brandy Tidwell , TFA President |
| Assisting | Beverly Boggs , SFFMA 4 th Vice President's Wife |
| Assisting | Anggie Sumrall , TFA Past President |
| Memorial Sermon | Ben Kennedy , SFFMA Chaplain |
| Benediction..... | Rayford Gibson , Tatum Fire Department |
| Signal 5-5-5 | Ben Kennedy , SFFMA Chaplain |
| Taps | Seth and Sage Fugua |
| Amazing Grace | Longview and Pharr Pipes & Drums |
| Recessional..... | Longview and Pharr Pipes & Drums |

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

As we set aside a time for a Memorial Service to honor those who departed from our midst during the past year, we herewith respectfully submit the following resolution.

WHEREAS: We desire to remember before God, our fellow firefighters who departed this life, and

WHEREAS: We desire to express our sorrow to their bereaved families,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commend the souls of the faithfully departed.
- We feel the loss of those who have given themselves unselfishly in the service of others.
- Each white flower placed upon the memorial wreath be our hallowed tribute to each departed member and each teal flower placed upon the memorial wreath be our hallowed tribute to each departed SFFMA Mascot and each blue flower placed upon the memorial wreath be our hallowed tribute to each SFFMA Past President and each maroon flower placed upon the memorial wreath be our hallowed tribute to each SFFMA Executive Board member and each red flower placed upon the memorial wreath be our hallowed tribute to each departed member who died in the line of duty.
- Each pink flower placed upon the memorial wreath be our hallowed tribute to each departed Auxiliary Member and each yellow flower be placed upon the wreath be our hallowed tribute to each TFA Past President, and each lavender flower placed upon the memorial wreath be our hallowed tribute to each TFA Executive Board Member.
- Each Chief or representative of each department that has lost one of its members, accept a flower from the memorial wreath to be presented in turn to the bereaved family and inform the members of that family of this service held in memory of our beloved departed firefighters and TFA members.
- The memorial wreath will be placed in front of Panola College Police Department, 1109 W. Panola St., Carthage, TX 75633.
- And a copy of this resolution be printed in the proceedings of the 143rd Annual Training Conference and Convention of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Donny Boggs, Co-Chairman, SFFMA 4th Vice President

Ben Kennedy, Co-Chairman, SFFMA Chaplain

Mike Richardson, President SFFMA

Bill Gardner, SFFMA Past President 2014

Patrick Hlavaty, SFFMA Past President 1997

Brandy Tidwell, TFA President

Anggie Sumrall, TFA Past President

Mary Jane Cargile, TFA Chaplain

William Anthony Cargile, Member

Jim Cargile, Member

Jerry Gomez, Member

Debbie Richardson, Member

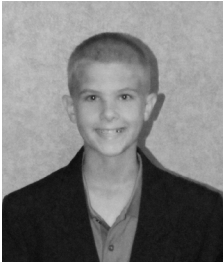
Morris Locknane, Member

Rayford Gibson, Member

John Robinson, Member

Kris Hester, Member

Billie Smith, Member



KELBY JASINSKI

SFFMA Mascot 2015

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

The State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, the Texas Firemen's Auxiliary, and all of the firefighters of the State of Texas suffered a tragic loss with the sudden and unexpected passing of Past Mascot Kelby Dawson Jasinski on July 19, 2018.

WHEREAS: Kelby Jasinski served as Mascot for the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association 2015.

WHEREAS: Kelby Jasinski Served as Mascot for the Central Texas Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association

WHEREAS: Kelby Jasinski served his community and the Central Texas District as a dedicated young man helping the fire department in every way he could.

WHEREAS: Kelby Jasinski was a devoted member of the Burton community and the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' family.

WHEREAS: Kelby Jasinski was always ready to share a smile and good will with everyone he met.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Texas Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association expresses its sincere appreciation and heartfelt condolence to the family of Kelby Jasinski and do hereby respectfully and reverently dedicate this 143rd Annual Memorial Service to the memory of Kelby Dawson Jasinski this 23rd day of June 2019.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Donny Boggs, Co-Chair, SFFMA 4th Vice President

Ben Kennedy, Co-Chair, SFFMA Chaplain

Mike Richardson, President SFFMA

Bill Gardner, SFFMA Past President 2014

Patrick Hlavaty, SFFMA Past President 1997

Brandy Tidwell, TFA President

Anggie Sumrall, TFA Past President

Mary Jane Cargile, TFA Chaplain

William Anthony Cargile, Member

Jim Cargile, Member

Jerry Gomez, Member

Debbie Richardson, Member

Morris Locknane, Member

Rayford Gibson, Member

John Robinson, Member

Kris Hester, Member

Billie Smith, Member

In Memoriam 2019

LINE OF DUTY

GLEN FLORA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Frankie Partida, Jr.September 17, 2018

HIDALGO COUNTY EMS

Paramedic Felipe HuertaDecember 16, 2018

NON-LINE OF DUTY

ABILENE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mike DegeringOctober 4, 2018

ALAMO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief & RGVFFMA Historian Rolando Espinoza..... June 23, 2018

ANNAVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Robert E. Cunningham, Jr. August 18, 2018

ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

David CulhaneJuly 18, 2018

ARP FIRE DEPARTMENT

James StarkJuly 28, 2018

BALLINGER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Juan Carlos Ruiz April 4, 2019

BARDWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Marcos LasosOctober 6, 2018

Michael Wayne Spurgeon..... March 24, 2019

BAXTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Randy Shelton November 20, 2018

BEASLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dennis Krause June 10, 2018

BRENHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ed Strangemeyer April 1, 2018

BROWNFIELD FIRE RESCUE

Billy Lee Greenfield April 29, 2018

Robert L. BentonJanuary 5, 2019

BURKBURNETT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Kenneth Cox June 3, 2018

Jerry W. Kemp August 19, 2018

Noah Scrimpsheer April 18, 2019

BURTON FIRE DEPARTMENT/SFFMA MASCOT

Kelby Dawson Jasinski July 19, 2018

CAMERON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Warren Dean Hillman December 12, 2017

CANYON FIRE DEPARTMENT/ PFFMA MASCOT

Shandy Robinson September 27, 2018

CEDAR HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lloyd Tumball September 19, 2018

CHISHOLM TRAIL FIRE & RESCUE

Nicholas Zoulek August 31, 2018

COLUMBUS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Leon Herring July 30, 2018

CORPUS CHRISTI FIRE DEPARTMENT

Olvey Gene Daniel June 14, 2018

Antonio Garcia February 17, 2019

Benjamin James Janosek August 11, 2018

Benito Sendejar, Jr. November 26, 2018

Buck Robert Sosa March 18, 2019

Dionicio Valdez September 13, 2018

CUERO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Josh Sullivan March 30, 2019

DALLAS FIRE RESCUE

Dennis Page July 26, 2018

Kenneth Parker July 9, 2018

DECATUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sam W. Renshaw July 3, 2018

DESOTO FIRE RESCUE

James Randle Bell February 25, 2019

DIMMITT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Neil Christian March 27, 2019

Kenneth Hollums March 13, 2019

EDCOUCH FIRE DEPARTMENT

George Alviar October 10, 2018

EDGECLIFF VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Floyd Dixon June 10, 2018

Isaac (Ike) Gallop January 10, 2019

Rodney Hall, Jr. November 30, 2018

ENNIS FIRE DEPARTMENT

David Hopkins June 5, 2018

EVERMAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Karl BergSeptember 5, 2018

FLOYDADA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Craig DuboisOctober 25, 2018

FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Charles Heimer August 27, 2018

Donald Peacock March 13, 2019

GILMER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Larry Lansdale May 26, 2019

HARLINGEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Assistant Chief Robert Ignacio Campos, Sr.June 11, 2018

Lt. Nicholas Gonzalez July 7, 2018

Lt. Ralph Romo, Sr.November 7, 2018

HENRIETA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Glen Borgman February 15, 2015

Harvey Gemar August 12, 2018

HIDALGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Daniel YbarraNovember 4, 2018

HURT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mike McMurray August 1, 2018

ITALY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Donald Chambers..... August 7, 2018

JASPER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Charles Gee April 3, 2019

LA GRANGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Andrew Hall March 9, 2019

Harley Krenek June 19, 2018

LONDON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Henry Davis, Jr. November 30, 2018

Carl Owings May 15, 2014

LULING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lloyd Leo Tiller, Sr. September 23, 2018

MANVEL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Michael WaitesNovember 20, 2016

MCALLEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Honorary Vol. Firefighter & Chaplain Bruce Covey June 3, 2018

MCCAMEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Wayne Greer October 11, 2018

MISSION FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lt. Gilbert GarciaJuly 4, 2018

NAVARRO MILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Phil CalvinJanuary 2, 2019

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Kevin Queppert, Sr.December 7, 2018

OVILLA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mike Blake March 20, 2019

PAIGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Kenneth Maynard Cowan March 5, 2017

Herbert Harold EschbergerSeptember 29, 2018

Allen Alfred OrtsAugust 23, 2016

Eddie Odies Voighs August 27, 2018

PASADENA FIRE DEPARTMENT

Wayne Hovey October 24, 2018

Daniel Staley March 12, 2019

PHARR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Gerald K. EulerMay 20, 2018

RAYMONDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

James "Jim" KirmanMarch 25, 2019

REFINERY TERMINAL FIRE COMP.

Weaver J. Mitchell August 7, 2018

RICHLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Patrick CunninghamOctober 2018

ROSEHILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Tomas Shellenberger, Sr.August 20, 2018

ROSENBERG/NACOGDOCHES FIRE DEPARTMENT

Kenneth ShotwellSeptember 4, 2018

ROSENBERG FIRE DEPARTMENT

William L. Crippen, Jr.December 4, 2018

ROTAN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Garland FloydSeptember 13, 2018

Bradley Lindley February 25, 2019

SAN JUAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Assistant Fire Chief Eliberto (Eddie Jr.) AlanizApril 25, 2018

SANSOM PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

John William Collins December 1, 2013

SEGUIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Glen Braune December 1, 2018

Hilmar Rennspies June 11, 2018

SFFMA

Christi Lynn Cheshire June 29, 2018

SHAMROCK FIRE DEPARTMENT

Billy Don Bonner November 15, 2018

SINTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Robert Wayne Miller August 2, 2018

Jimmy Reeves, Sr. February 28, 2019

TAFT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Harold Lee Krieg August 31, 2018

TERREL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Don Lindsey, Sr. January 25, 2019

VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Robert F. Pierce January 18, 2019

WAXAHACHIE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Jim Turner January 3, 2019

WESLACO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Lt. Frank "Pancho" Lewis October 17, 2017

Fire Chief (Ret.) Santana "Tony" Abrigo April 29, 2018

WEST I-10 FIRE DEPARTMENT

Douglas Baker December 20, 2018

WHARTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief David James Copeland January 4, 2019

WHEELER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Gary Lynn Davis June 30, 2018

WHITEHALL COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Assistant Chief Roger D. Lieder July 25, 2018

WILMER HUTCHINS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Brian Nowell August 16, 2018

ZAPATA CO. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Captain Israel "Ike" Gutierrez December 26, 2018

AUXILIARY MEMBERS

ALVIN

Sally Thomson February 28, 2019

ANSON

Becky King June 30, 2018

BEEVILLE

Mieko Einspahr October 26, 2018

BRAZOS COUNTY PCT. 4

Bernice Ondrasek November 21, 2018

EDINBURG

Margaret Bishop April 21, 2018

GATESVILLE

Helen Chambers Lipsy April 2, 2018

NEEDVILLE

Winona Schroeder Luedeke June 04, 2019

PASADENA

Kim Cameron June 27, 2018

Leslie Peckham November 18, 2018

ROSENBERG

Suzy C. Scopel October 26, 2018

Claudia H. Wleczyk December 13, 2018

SEGUIN

Mary Kolbe April 8, 2019

TANGLEWOOD

Ruby “Nena” Simpson September 28, 2018

THORNDALE

Linda Biar December 21, 2018

PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: Welcome. I hereby call to order this 143rd State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Training Conference and Convention. Your presiding officer today will be 4th Vice President, Donny Boggs.

VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: You may be seated. At this time, I'm going to ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to secure the room, please. I would ask everyone to remove any head gear you may have, silence any cell phones you may have, and remain silent with very little movement, please. At this time, I'm going to ask our Honor Guard to present the Colors. Honor Guard, present Colors. (Honor Guard presents Colors.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Lead us in the invocation.

VICE PRESIDENT JOHN ROBINSON: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I'm John Robinson. I've been the chaplain for the North Texas District for the past six years. I'm currently serving as the 4th Vice President. Let us pray. Our most gracious heavenly Father, as we come before you this morning giving you all of the praise for all of the blessing that you've bestowed upon this organization. It is through your graces that this State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas has become the best in the nation. I pray that you will continue to be with the families of all of our fallen, departed brothers and sisters, who are our heroes. I pray that you will be returning with all these families to their homes safely; guide, guard, and protect them at their family loss. Please place your healing hand upon them. We thank you for allowing us to assemble here today to honor the service of all of our heroes. We ask you to continue to watch over our military personnel wherever they are stationed. Please keep them out of harm's way and return them to their families. Pray that we will conduct our business meeting and conference in a manner that would be pleasing unto you. In your name we pray. Amen.

PAST PRESIDENT BILL GARDNER: Please be seated. Vice president, I'd like to offer the following resolution. (resolution on page 43 read). Mr. Vice President, I move that this resolution be accepted into the record.

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: I have a motion to accept resolution as read. Do I have a second?

MEMBER ATTENDEE: Second.

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: I have a second. All in favor say aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All opposed? (No response.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Resolution passes.

PAST PRESIDENT BILL GARDNER: Mr. Vice President, I offer this follow-up Memorial Committee resolution. (resolution on page 44 read).

PAST PRESIDENT BILL GARDNER: Mr. Vice President, I move that this be accepted and introduced into the record.

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: I have a motion to accept the resolution as read. Do I have a second?

MEMBER ATTENDEE: Second.

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: Aye.

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Any opposed? (No response.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Resolution accepted and passed.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: The men and women of today's fire service are confronted with a more dangerous work environment than ever before. We're forced to continually change our strategies and tactics to accomplish our tasks. Our methods may change, but our goals remain the same as they were in the past: to save lives and to protect property, sometimes at a terrible cost. This is what we do, this is our chosen profession, this is the tradition of the firefighter. The fire services today is ever-changing, but is steeped in traditions 200 years old. One such tradition is the sound of a bell. In the past, as firefighters began their tours of duty, it was the bell that signaled the beginning of that day's shift. Throughout the day and night, each alarm was sounded by a bell which summoned these brave souls to fight fires and to place their lives in jeopardy for the good of their fellow citizens.

When the fire was out and the alarm had come to an end, it was the bell that signaled the completion of that call. When a firefighter had died in the line of duty, paying the extreme sacrifice, it was the mournful toll of the bell that solemnly announced a comrade's passing. We utilize these traditions as symbols, which reflect honor and respect upon those who have given so much and who have served so well. To symbolize the devotion that these brave souls had to their duty, a single toll represents the end of our comrades' duties and that they will be returning to quarters. So to those who have selflessly given their lives for the good of their fellow man, their tasks completed, their duties well done, to our comrades, their last alarm--they are going home.

Song: How Great Thou Art, sung by TFA Vice President Patti Jones.

PAST PRESIDENT PATRICK HLAVATY: In Memoriam names (pages 45 - 49 are read and bell is rung after each name)

TFA CHAPLAIN MARY JANE CARGILE: Good morning. My name is Mary Jane Cargile, and I am the chaplain for the Ladies' Auxiliary for the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association. Every year, I try to find a reading that's appropriate for this memorial service. This year, I found one that's hitting right on the money, close to home, and I'd like to read it for you. Four years ago today, I got up ridiculously early in the morning to say goodbye to my husband as he was leaving

for a six-week training exercise. "What are you doing up? You didn't have to get up." "I just wanted to say goodbye." I gave him a hug and a kiss as he walked out the door. "I love you. Have a good exercise. I'll see you in six weeks." I locked the door; and as I turned, I tripped over an extra pair of combat boots he had discarded on the floor, muttering under my breath, picked them up and threw them in the closet on way back to bed, just as I had a thousand times before over the previous 21 years. Later that morning, I followed the trail he'd left behind him: an unfinished bowl of congealed oatmeal and blueberries on the dining room table, radio that he forgot or never bothered to turn off; half a cup of cold coffee on the counter by the dishwasher; pajama pants in a heap at the top of the stairs by the living room, where one naturally would leave their PJs; plastic Army clipboard on the desk in the entryway.

As I made my way around the house, tidying up after him, I wondered if he would ever learn how to clean up after himself. He was a make-work project in so many ways. Never deliberately, he was just forgetful and scattered and was no so clumsy. He was forever losing or spilling things. I had absolutely no idea that was the last morning I would ever clean up after him or that he would never come home again. When someone we love dies, they leave a vast void in their stead, where a life once existed, now only memories. Those memories suddenly become our most precious possession. We tether them close to our hearts and replay them over and over on a loop, like a movie reel of life. We cling to them desperately, for they are all we have left of the person we lost.

We can't help but think of all the memories that will never be made, all the should-have-beens and momentous occasions we will miss, like graduations, weddings, grandchildren born. We think of all the unfulfilled hopes and dreams, the aspirations and plans for the future that are now all gone. We think of the things they will never get to do, the trips they won't get to make, things they won't get to see.

But gone isn't just those big, momentous events or the things they never can do. Gone is so much very more than that. Gone is a thousand tiny, seemingly insignificant ordinary things that we took for granted every single day. Things we may have even once complained about. Gone is no more dirty dishes, no half-eaten, cold oatmeal, no cold cup of coffee. Gone is no more abandoned pile in the most random spot. Gone is no more PT gear or uniforms to wash. Gone is no more Blackberry constantly buzzing. Gone are those combat boots in front of the door to trip over. As I was leaving for my run this morning, I paused at the entryway of the back door. I stopped and I listened to an echo of a memory: "Seriously, Daniel, can't you just once put your darn boots in the closet?" I looked down at the floor. There was nothing there. Just an empty space. Sometimes you don't fully comprehend the significance of something so simple in this life until it's no longer there. All too often we don't appreciate how fortunate we are until what we have is gone. It's not that we are purposely ungrateful.

TFA CHAPLAIN MARY JANE CARGILE: We just get so caught up with the chaos of life, so busy hurrying from one day to the next we unexpectedly, forget to stop and be grateful for all that we have; and sometimes, in all of the stress, all of the rushing to and from, we don't even see how much we have to be grateful for. We don't realize just how meaningful a pair of combat boots by the door really are. We very rarely stop to think about what gone actually is, because we never really think it will happen to us. Gone isn't just some throwaway term or trite cliché used to define the absence of someone. Gone is real and it's enduring. And gone, it does happen to us, randomly, unexpectedly, on a sunny May afternoon.

Four years ago today, I didn't know the true meaning of gone. I didn't know just how hard it would be to start over at 43. I didn't know about the challenges of only parenting three teenagers. I didn't know about the long years ahead of me, and I certainly didn't know how profoundly sad an empty entryway could be. I locked the door behind me; and as I turned, I caught one brief, final glance of the empty entryway, through the window. I brushed away the tears, just as I had a thousand times before over the last four years. What's gone is gone forever.

As I ran down my street, I couldn't help but wonder how many wives are muttering under their breaths this morning as they tripped over a pair of combat boots or husbands were grumbling because their wife bought yet another pair of shoes. It's so easy to be annoyed by those things, to roll your eyes and shake your head, the inconvenience, the cost, the clutter, and "Why do your combat boots need to be there? Why can't you put them away?" and "Really, who needs that many pairs of shoes? I don't even want to know how much those cost." It is only after they're gone that we realize the value's gone in one heartbreaking instant. This morning stop for a moment and look around you. Take it all in, the combat boots, the laundry, the dirty dishes, the Blackberry that never stops buzzing, the shoe collection, stop and think about what it all represents. Appreciate it, savor it while you still can, before it becomes but a memory; and as you do, know just how fortunate you are to have every annoying, ordinary, lovely bit of it, because someday, you might just find yourself like I was this morning: standing in an empty entryway with nothing but your memories, longing for the musty smell of mud and boot polish on a pair of combat boots that will never be worn again. Be grateful for those combat boots by the door. You truly will miss them when they are gone, more than you could possibly ever imagine. All I've got to say is, "Honey, I will never again complain about those shoes by the dining room table that are still there."

TFA CHAPLAIN MARY JANE CARGILE: Ladies and gentlemen, we have flowers on the table outside in the hallway for those of you who have names that have been read from your station or from your families, that have been presented here today. I am now going to read the names of the Ladies' Auxiliary who have passed (names from page 50 are read).

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: You know, as I look out across this audience this morning, I see faces that I see every year, but there are also faces that I can see in my mind's eye that I will never again see in person at this meeting. And as I was having a moment this morning, I was asked: "As tough as this is, is there anywhere else you would rather be today?" to which, without hesitation, I said no, because as difficult as this is becoming, it is a great honor to stand here before you, as your chaplain, and lead this remembrance and celebration of life of our brothers and sisters, friends, family members, that have left us. And that's what it is, is a celebration of life. We celebrate it through tears and a lot of other ways. But to be here around people that care, to be around people that love you, to be around people that share in your own grief is important because it's part of the healing process, and that healing process takes time. And people are always saying "I'm never going to get over it," "I don't know what I'm going to do." I'm telling you, I understand the difficulty. I understand that our hearts are broken. There's a hole in them that is never, ever, ever going to be completely healed because there's going to be a scar there. And there are going to be so many things to cause that scar to hurt just a little bit as you remember those that we have lost.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: But you see, folks, the spirit is strong. The strength is there, and we are here today because of that. Not only to receive it, but also to give to those who have lost loved ones that really don't know where they're going to go or what they're going to do. We celebrate life. We celebrate lives of the men and the women who served with us, who served us, who lived with us, that we walked and talked and laughed and cried and griped and cussed and whatever else we did with them but they were important to us. And as Mary Jane talked about the boot tracks, I guarantee you, you're still going to get on to you about your boots; but some sweet day, family is going to laugh and say, "Do you remember Dad's boots?" And, folks, that is what is going to sustain us. That is what's going to give us strength, because it is not the death of that individual that we are going to deal with. It is the life they led and what they left us with that will sustain us and get us through and make this more tolerable each and every day that we live. Grief is all (indistinct). I don't (indistinct) when we lost our son. (Indistinct) my wife when we lost our son. And it still hits us, just like it does with each and every one of you. Each and every name of every individual, their family gets hit every day with it, because they can't forget everything. But how do we handle grief? How do we deal with it? Where do we go? You know, for some people, death hits them and it sends them into deep, dark depths of depression. Others, they're stoic and they look you in the eye and they tell you "I'm fine," when, on the inside, their guts are churning. Others, their lives are simply crushed.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: And all of us probably feel that at one time or another; yet, when you walk into an audience like this and you see people surrounding you, that care about you, that love you, that drove hundreds of miles and took time out of their Sunday to be here to join you and share in that grief with you and say you are not alone -- you may be by yourself at your house, you may be yourself in your thoughts, but, folks, never, ever, ever think that you are alone, because there are people that do care; there are people that are here to be with you, that you can gain strength from and will help you go on and on. And eventually -- ten years later, I can look you in the eye and say it hurts every day. I cry every day; but I'm getting through, and it's easier to tolerate because I've got two beautiful grandchildren that I see him in every day. You have kids that you see that loved one in every day. They may be dead, but they are not gone; and because of that, they live forever. You can see them. You can see their strength. You can feel that they're with you. So, folks, there's an old saying: "Inch by inch is a cinch. Yard by yard is too hard." This is a marathon. You may run a 9.8 hundred-meter dash, but this is a marathon and it takes time and it takes strength and it takes a will. Little by little, step by step, one inch at a time. One of the problems that you and I all have, when it comes to death, is we tend to hang on to the dead. You tend to hang on to the dead. But it's not the death we need to hang on to, people; it is the life.

The fact that they lived, that they gave, that they shared with you and they shared with me, and you can see it as you go through life. Not trying to take away the pain because I can't take away the pain. I can tell you right now I can't take it away, and you can't take it away from me. But I can tell you, through love and through care, we can all get through it and that each and every year, it will get a little easier to tolerate.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: In John 11:35, shortest verse in the Bible, probably all of you can memorize this after I say it: "Jesus wept," as He was standing at the tomb of Lazarus. He wept because He had compassion for his fellow man. We weep today because we have compassion. We weep today because we do care. But Jesus knew the hurt. He knew the pain of death. He lived and He died, for you and for me, a more painful and crushing death than any of us will ever see anybody die. He raised Lazarus from the dead. He knew he was going to be dead. But Jesus also knew that at some point in time, Lazarus was going to die again; but He also knew that Lazarus was going to be raised again, and this time to never die again.

So, folks, I beg of you, please, try to turn loose of the dead and latch on full-bore to the life that our loved ones led, because it is through that life that we are going to make it through. It is through that life that we are going to see where we need to get to and how we need to get there. Remember that the loved ones lived. Don't, necessarily, remember that they died; remember that they lived. Remember what they did while they were alive.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: I think about Kelby. You saw the tears up here this morning. Kelby was a young man that was loved by this entire association. The pictures on Facebook of him with his animals, of him catching of fish, of him doing the things that he did, and never once did you see him look at somebody like "I'm really hurting." He had a smile as big as Dallas on his face. And as much as it hurts and as tough as it is, I see Kelby Jasinski in this family right over here every time I look at them. Whether they're laughing, whether they're crying, whether we're having a good time, what we're remembering, I see that face. I see that smile of that young man. I can still hear him, looking me in the eye, and say, "I love you, man." That's what I remember about Kelby. Not that Kelby is not with us anymore, but that Kelby lived. And Kelby tried to show me, in his life, how to live and to enjoy what we have, because, folks, it's far too short. We were talking about it yesterday. The only thing we're guaranteed in life is right now, and right now is gone because we've already moved on to another second. And that's all we're guaranteed. So live what we've got, enjoy what we've got, and let the people who have lived before us teach us to give and give and give, because tomorrow we may not be able to give. And in the fire service, that's what we are, is we're givers. Not takers, we're givers. So continue to give and continue to let those people that we know and we love and we've lost know. Whether they really know or not right now, but you know that they are giving you the strength to continue to give. Again, you see them in grandkids, you see them in brothers and sisters, you see them in mamas and daddies. And I was thinking today about Christi. Even children that were not her natural-born children -- I can see Christi Cheshire in your boy's heart. Some of it good, some of it nnnnhh. (Laughter.)

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: But you can see it and you look at it every day. When I look at my two grandboys, and they're there. And I know that my son not only lived, he gave and he continues to give. That's what can help sustain us. That and knowing that there is much more to life than what we're living today. In John 14, Versus 1 to 4, he says, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me, for in My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to Me so that there you may be also."

Ladies and gentlemen, that is where life is, not here. We live in a box surrounded on the north, south, east, west, up and down, anywhere you want to go, by time. But once we leave this world, as far as the east is from the west--and we're not talking about this Earth--time is going to continue. So you start right here at the east and you head to the west and you will go in a straight line that never, ever, ever ends. And that's what life is. And that's where our joy needs to reside, is beyond life. And as we celebrate the lives and the honor that we're given to these people that we have lost, this weekend, the names that were read, hold on to that name.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: Put that death to the side and hold on to that life they lived and where they're going with us and what they're doing with us. Never forget. You're never going to forget. Never think that I'm trying to tell you that you can grieve or you can't cry, that it's not okay to do that and not okay to still be hurting, because it is. That is part of it. Man, don't dwell on it. Dwell on the life they lived and what we did with the life they had. And as we hold on to that and we hold on to those precious memories, we can forever, and everybody that ever knew, can hold on to that life, because they served, they lived, and they gave and for that, friends and neighbors, we can rest in peace and we can get through, not past, but through, the loss of our loved ones and know there is strength and know that there is joy and see that in everybody that we know and everybody who stills remembers them and remembers the things that they did. And as we go through this week, I promise you, you talk to some of these folks, they're going to talk about folks that we have lost over the years and never once, when we talk about those people that we've lost, you go back to where you'll see smiles and maybe a tear or two of joy and laughter because of the life they led and what they gave to each and every one of us and, therein, we find peace and comfort and joy.

Would you pray with me, please. All mighty God, we're thankful to You, once again, for the day You've blessed us so richly with and the opportunity we've had to come here and share our love and fellowship, to share the life of our brothers and sisters that we have lost through these years. I just want to say thank You, God, for blessing each and every one of us with each and every one of them, through the good times and the bad times, the tears and the joy, and all of the other things that go with it, because it makes us better people. But we truly thank You for sending Jesus to give us strength, joy, comfort, and knowing that there is something better in just being here. Thank You, Father, for blessing us, thank You for comforting us, and thank You for being with us, and please be with us through the rest of this week. We ask all of these things in the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

CHAPLAIN RAYFORFD GIBSON: Thank you, Chaplain Kennedy, for that message. It is really (indistinct). My name is Rayford Gibson. I serve as Assistant Secretary/Chaplain for Northeast Texas an honor to be here this morning and to be a part of this service and this fire service family that we all know (indistinct). Would you bow with me, please.

Heavenly Father, we thank You again for this opportunity to come together, to assemble as a family to honor the lives of the ones whose names were read this morning. We ask that You put Your healing hands upon the families of each one whose name was called today, and please guide and direct them. Let them know that You're there. We ask you also now to go with us through the remainder of this training conference and convention, be with each one present and grant them a safe trip home. These things we ask in Jesus Christ. Amen.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: Each year we close this memorial service, start the close of it, with the bell, signal 5-5-5. It signals the end of an individual's tour of duty. It calls those to duty and signals when fires are out and signals when people have died in the line of duty. But what it does today, it is a symbol of the fact that an individual's tour of duty is done, it is back at the station, they have gone home, and this job is finished, and we say job well done.

(Ringing of bell five times.)

(Ringing of bell five times.)

(Ringing of bell five times.)

(Playing of Taps.)

(Playing of Amazing Grace.)

(Color Guard exits.)

OPENING BUSINESS SESSION

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019 - 1:00 P.M.

(Beginning of business meeting inaudible to reporter where stationed. Reporter repositions.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: -- business meeting. Take a moment to thank the City of Longview, Longview Fire Department, our office staff, everybody with (indistinct) a lot of hard work and hours of effort to get this thing kicked off the ground. So with that starting, I'm going to ask Chaplain Kennedy to come up here and provide the invocation.

CHAPLAIN KENNEDY: Bow with me, please.

Father, we're grateful to you again for the day that You've blessed us with, the opportunity to be here, the opportunity to share in this time together, in the fellowship and brotherhood. We ask now, Lord, to be with us as we go through this business meeting, and it be done to the best of our ability and done to what is best for the firefighters and the citizens of this great state.

We thank You so much for the love You have for us and all that You've given to us. We ask now, Lord, a special blessing on the (indistinct) family, as Patrick's in the hospital. We thank You for blessing us and blessing them and we pray that he will be back to complete health soon.

We also remember Cowboy Wylie, who is in the hospital, and pray that he will have a quick and speedy recovery.

We ask all of this in the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Just a quick note. Patrick is doing some better. I hope that he will be out of ICU soon. For those of you who don't know, Cowboy Wylie is the ripe young age of, what, 82, 85, something like that. Fell out of a tree trimming trees.

(Laughter.)

CHAPLAIN KENNEDY: But that's not what injured him. He had a metal sliver in his hand, and his hand swelled up like a balloon. So that is the problem with Cowboy. So I don't recommend any of you at age 82 to 85 getting up in trees and trimming branches, Bob, so -- enough is enough. I'd like to ask you to also remember Rodney Miles. Missed that one in the prayer. So remember him. He's recovering from a stroke. And keep him and his family in your prayers also.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you. At this time, I'd ask (indistinct) to come up and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and (indistinct).

(Pledge of Allegiance, United States of America.)

(Pledge of Allegiance, State of Texas.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: You may be seated.

We've had a request to turn the volume up for our senior citizens in the group. All right. Thank you kindly. Appreciate you. Let's see. At this time, call on Secretary Brent Allen. Go over (indistinct) protocol and the rules of the convention.

SECRETARY ALLEN: All right, everybody, so during the convention, we ask that you stay seated so everybody can hear and see and participate in the business of our association. We also ask that you do not move around too much and unnecessarily. It bothers other people, if they can't hear. Like me, I can't hear half the time. So if anyone on the floor has anything to say, we have a microphone on the aisle right here that you can come up and talk and do whatever you need during the proceedings. And identify yourself and make sure that you speak clearly and into the microphone. On the (indistinct) protocol on Wednesday morning, if you are registered delegate of this convention, you will need to see the sergeant-at-arms and receive a paper ballot, and they will mark your delegate name and badge and give you a ballot. So, basically, we're going to mark your badge and say you have a ballot and you can vote. Other than that, I'm going to get Mr. Matt here, co-chairman and the sergeant-at-arms, and he'll give you a little bit of information about the ins and outs of (indistinct) and all that.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good afternoon. I'm Matt Cornell, I'm a sergeant-at-arms. So Robert can't be here today. He's not feeling too well. So he asked me to fill in for that. Mostly, the sergeant-at-arms makes sure that you have your badges and everything with you through the different events. And then the other thing, they make sure the tickets for the dinner and dance, that you have those with you. It helps keep count for the meals and everything. Other than that, if you need something, find a (indistinct) is happy to help you out, help you with anything you need, with the exception of getting you out of jail.

(Laughter.)

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Other than that, have a good conference. If you need something, find us. The last thing, of course -- I wouldn't be right if I don't (indistinct) and didn't mention the (indistinct) on the stage. Right? So anything on the stage is amnesty. I challenge

y'all this week. We're running a little short for money, so I challenge you to try to get a hold of the box and see how much money we can raise for MDA. Other than that, lost items, if you find any lost items, bring them to us. We'll try to find the rightful owner and get them back for a small fee. The last thing as far as the sergeant-at-arms, if you come by our table, notice there will be a little duck out there. You can pet our duck for a buck and that money goes to MDA. And we're not taking that any further, right. Other than that, have a good conference. Thank you.

SECRETARY ALLEN: All right. Thank you. I'll just give you a dollar. How about that? All right. At this point in time, we're going to call on our president, Mike Richardson.

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank y'all for being here today. As I prepare to step down and watch Tim Smith take over the reins of this association, I'm proud, extremely proud, to have been the service to all of you in here. You know, we started out at the beginning of the year a little rocky. Took a while to get our feet under us. We had some tragedy in our organization. I think we kind of fed on that this morning in the memorial service, kind of opened us up to that. The lady from the news station asked me a while ago--she had me to talk to her a little bit--and she kind of asked me a question that made me look a little bit on the inside. She said, "Why do you really start this association's business meeting, where you're going to train and going to do business, why do you start that with a memorial service? You know, why go into the emotion and all of that when starting out?" I thought about that, and I told her: the reason is, you know, we can all get a little heated in business, we have differences of opinions through the course of this week when we have these sessions and committee meetings and but ultimately, ultimately, all of you know we're a family. This brotherhood means something. If you're wearing one of these (indicating wristband), it means something. It's not just idle words. Over the five years I've been on this board, that brotherhood, that strength of this family, has grown so strong in here. Yes, we've had disagreements, yes, we've had arguments, but that's why we started this few days, of sometimes a little bit of strong discussion and getting down to the nitty-gritty of the hard business of this group, so we started with

that memorial service because it reminds us what those families that are in here that are grieving, that we're here with them as a family, to grieve with them. And it's exactly what Chaplain Kennedy said: we're not celebrating that anyone's gone. We're celebrating the life of those people, a life of a member of our family.

So keep that in mind as we go through this week. It's something I never thought of, that lady asked me that one little question and every one of us in here are family and we'll conduct and do the business of this association. Sometimes business is dirty -- or it leaves you a little dirty in the end, but in the end, we're all a family, the brotherhood is strong, and, again, I am just absolutely so proud to have served with all of you and to serve you this past year -- the past five years, and I will continue to do so. Thank you all, and welcome to this great, great 143rd Conference and Training Convention.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you, Mike. It's been a real pleasure working with Mike over the years. We didn't know each other before all this started, but have grown to be great friends.

You know, Mike and all of them has done such a tremendous job this year. I think they deserve one more round of applause.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. At this point in time, I'd like to ask Chief Steelman of the Longview Fire Department, as well as Judge Stoudt, to come up and give us a few words.

CHIEF STEELMAN: Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome to Longview. We're excited to have you here. And I've got to tell you, on the coattails of Mike Richardson, I've set a new goal in my life: before I die, I want to have a mustache that looks just like that. Still got some growing to do. Mike and I first met in person back in January for part of the planning for this conference; but, I'm telling you, that's my new goal right there, end up with that somewhere down the road. I don't know that I'll ever get there.

I guess on behalf of Mayor Mack and my boss, City Manager Keith Bonds, welcome to the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals'

Association annual training and conference, back to Northeast Texas. It's been a while, and glad to have you back. It's truly a privilege for our city, once again, to be the host site for such a gathering of so many individuals who continually make such an impactful and selfless contribution to the residents of our great state of Texas. I mean that. You go unsung so much of the time, people don't realize what you do and out here doing it, and it's great to have you with us because of that.

Since 1985, I've had the good fortune to be a member of this organization and have been directly mentored and coached by many of those SFFMA members who have either passed on, and some of them are still here in this room today, and have been a big part of my career in seeking a profession in the fire service. And that's been going on about 35 years now. And I'm extremely glad for the friendships I've made. The brotherhoods and the sisterhoods that I have out there has been a big part of helping me grow in the fire service and, ultimately, become who I am today, and I'm very appreciative of that.

During your time here with us in Longview, if you have any type of unmet needs that arise, please reach out to me. I'll throw my home phone number at you, (903) 237-1227. And if I'm not in my office, it rolls to my cell phone. We'll help you any way that we can. If you're out and about and you see a Longview Fire Department crew in an ambulance, a ladder truck, or a fire engine, and you need some help, grab them and let them know what you need. We're here to serve you, and we're proud to have you back here with us. And, once again, I want to welcome you to Longview. We consider it real East Texas.

So now it is my privilege to introduce our county judge. He's going to be our chief elected official continuing the welcome today. And I want to tell you a little bit about him. He does a lot, a busy guy. Bill Stoudt has served as Gregg County judge since 2003. He's a member of the Texas Association of Counties, the Gregg County Bail Bond Board, and the Longview Rotary Club. He's the founder of the Boys & Girls Club of East Texas and Centurion Club. He's chairman of the I-20 East Texas Corridor Advisory Committee,

East Texas Council of Governments, and the Gregg County Juvenile Board, and he's community adviser for the Junior League of Longview. Additionally, he's the former director and chairman of the Longview Economic Development Corporation, the Gregg County Appraisal District, the City of Longview Higher Education Council, the Cherokee Water Company, and Regions Bank. I don't know how you go to all these meetings. He currently serves as chairman for the Texas Commission on Jail Standards as the governor appointee. (Indistinct) Bachelor of Business Administration degree and (indistinct) from Georgia State University. And I can tell you from experience, not only being the fire chief of Longview, but being the emergency management coordinator and knowing the combination (indistinct) between the EMC and the county judges everywhere in Texas, he's a huge supporter of all the public safety aspects, not just here locally, but in entire region, and he has tremendously impacted emergency response capabilities in Northeast Texas with untiring focus on emergency services and preparedness. Ladies and gentlemen, please let me help welcome the Honorable Judge Bill Stoudt.

(Applause.)

JUDGE STOUDT: Thank you, Chief. I certainly thank you on that nice introduction. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to Longview, the county seat of Gregg County. As a Gregg County judge, it's my honor to send to you a warm East Texas welcome to the State Firefighter's and Fire Marshals' Annual Conference.

As the chief said, it has been quite some time since you-all have been here, and it is, indeed, an honor for us to host your event, to provide us with an opportunity to spotlight the amazing beauty of our area and the gracious people of our community. I hope our hospitality exceeds your expectations, and we all look forward, in Gregg County, to once again be chosen to bethe venue. I wish you all a productive conference, and thank you for coming to Gregg County and thank you for your time here and time invested in the United States of America. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

CHIEF STEELMAN: I wanted everybody to be aware we are

expecting severe weather later on today, through tonight into the tomorrow, into the afternoon. They've upgraded us from a marginal to a moderate risk or enhanced risk, and so if you're paying attention to the weather. Our city does utilize Code Red, the warning application, app, available on your phone, just in case something happening. It's one of our first steps notifying our public of what's going on. So just be weather-aware of what's going around you today. Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: We thank you very much, and, Chief, thanks for the heads-up on the weather. Let's see. At this point in time, I'd like to call on past president Kyle Stephens -- I'm sorry, do sponsor recognition Chris Barron.

DIRECTOR BARRON: Good afternoon. I want to just take a moment to recognize our sponsors of this event, because we cannot do this event without them. I'm Chris Barron, executive director with the State Association. I'd like to recognize our Platinum sponsors for this year. The Texas Farm Bureau sponsored the lunch that you had earlier. AT&T, VFIS, and WinStar Insurance Group for their Platinum sponsorship. Gold sponsors are TEEEX, and there is no doubt we cannot do this without TEEEX, with their instructors, their coordinators, director, and all the people that go along with making this possible for us. The Galveston County Firefighter's Association and California Casualty as gold sponsors. Silver sponsors this year are Casco Industries, Government Capital, and Budweiser. Brass sponsors are Public Safety Group, Rowdy Creek Ranch, and Longview. And then our Copper sponsors: TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool and Vic Einspahr. Please give a moment and show your appreciation to our sponsors.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you, Director Barron. Now at this time, I'd like to call on Past President Kyle Stephens to come up and recognize all the past presidents of this organization.

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: Thank you, Tim. I'm Kyle Stephens. I am co-chairman of the Past Presidents' Club. The first thing I'd like to point out, down here we have a plaque that belongs to this club. There's a lot of history to that. Every president of this

organization's signature is on that. The gold star represents those that have passed on. But if you get a chance, come by and take a look at it and read about the club. Right now, there are 26 past presidents alive. Here at this convention, we have 17, that have shown up for this conversation, and that's a pretty good average right there. At this time, I will introduce those that are here. As I call your name, if you would, line up across here, so that they can take a picture when we get through.

First one on the list, 1986 president -- past president, Bob Looney. Bob has 47 years in the fire service.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: The next gentleman, 1988 "Doc" Ernest Reesing. Doc has 60 years in the fire service.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 1991, Billy Ray Mize. Billy Ray has 30 years.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: Back up just a minute because I left something off and I will tell y'all. Bob is from Mansfield, Doc is from Alpine, and Billy Ray is from Burkburnett.

Next on the list, 1995, Deloss Edwards, 61 years. Deloss is from Abilene.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: Young gentleman -- can I call him a young gentleman? He's not here with us. Unfortunately, he's in the hospital. He was here earlier for the finance meeting, 1997 Patrick Hlavaty, 35 years, from El Campo.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 1999, Terry Mayfield, 43 years in the fire service, from Seguin.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2000, Dallas Renfrew, 40 years in the fire service, from Seminole.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2003, Carl T. Anderson, 47 years, and he's from Santa Fe.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2004, David Luedeke, 51 years. He's from Needville.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: And I was your 2007 president, 29 years in the fire service, and I'm from Decatur.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2010, Kent Watts, Jr., 52, from Luling.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2012, Rex Klesel, 44, from Alvin.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2013, David Wade, 39 years, from Deer Park.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2015, Rusty Kattner, 49 years, Santa Fe.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2016, Paul Hamilton, 46 years, Potter County.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: 2017, Henry Perry, 35 years, from Bastrop.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: And last, but not least, 2018, Harvie Cheshire, 42 years, College Station.

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: Thanks to them, thank you. Right now, a total of 750 years in the fire service.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Kyle, thank you very much, and to all you gentlemen in the Past President's Club, we thank you for your service; thank you for everything you've done. So with that, Henry Perry, I'll ask him to come up and do a recognition for the Past Mascots and Past Sweethearts.

PAST PRESIDENT PERRY: Tim, thank you. President Richardson,

thank you. It's my pleasure to stand up here today. It's something I -- I got started in San Marcos. If there are any past mascots or past sweethearts of the association, if you would, please come up to the front of the room. There was one here this morning. (Indistinct.) He had to go back to work. (Indistinct) to work. John Taylor is here. Johnny started in the early '60s. I served in 1978. And Chris, when did you serve?

DIRECTOR BARRON: '97.

PAST PRESIDENT PERRY: '97.

2014 sweetheart and the 2019 mascot. 2012 sweetheart and 2018. And from -- 2018 sweetheart. To me, this can be and should be and is the future of our organization. Chris someday will be up on this board following his dad, and I did the same thing. My dad didn't serve on the board, but I followed a family tradition and came up. So the future of our service. Thank y'all.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you, Henry. Thank you all. At this point in time, I'd like to call on TFA President Brandy Tidwell to come up and introduce our Ladies Auxiliary.

TFA PRESIDENT TIDWELL: I would like to introduce my TFA Board. 1st Vice President is Leslie Nixon; 2nd Vice President is Patti Jones; 3rd Vice President is Melissa Thomson; 4th Vice President is Ashlyn Anderson; and Immediate Past President is Anggie Sumrall. My secretary is Donna Svatek. My treasurer is Kendra Charbula. Parliamentarian, Jerri Locknane; Historian, Penny Horelica; Chaplain, Mary Jane Cargile; and my Sweetheart is Cambree Charbula.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Brandy, on behalf of everybody here, we wanted to say thank you. Couldn't do this without the women, for sure. A big part of our organization, not to be forgotten, not to be taken lightly. We're going to deviate from the program a minute, due to a previous commitment. At this time, I'd like to invite Director Tom Boggus from the Texas A & M Forest Service, to come up and give his report.

DIRECTOR BOGGUS: Good afternoon. Thank you. Before I get

labeled, I'll label myself. I am really high-maintenance today because I'm not supposed to be at this part of the program, but Chris and the gentlemen at this table, they let me come up. The board of regents called a meeting tonight at 5:30, and I told them that I'll be there; and when your bosses said going to have a dinner for you and you're invited, that means you better show up. And so that's where I'm going to be shortly, so got to get out of here. I know I'm early, but I appreciate the invitation to come speak to this group. I never want to pass it up. And so I called Chris, and I think I got him in, I don't know, some godawful place, and he said, "Sure, I'll work with you." So I really appreciate the opportunity to be here. So let's get to it. I want to -- of course, I'm going to show you something... (Technical difficulties.)

DIRECTOR BOGGUS: This will be shorter than I thought. All right. Now we'll try again. There we go. The data will show you and everybody in this room knows that we live in a fire ecology, and Texas is a place where we're going to have fires. You know, it's just the way it is, who we are and in and out. The difference is we got folks living out there everywhere, and one thing I like about this stat is if we look, 76 percent of people, all of our wildfires -- we've been keeping records from a long time now, and 76 percent of our wildland fires occur within one mile of a community, somebody living in our wildland area. And even higher than that, 87 percent live within two miles. And so, you know, that increases the complexity of what y'all do every day. So that's another reason I love to be here.

Since we were last together, we've had almost 5,000 fires across the state, but the big number I like is you saved 3,896 homes. Now, I never say "about 4,000" or "almost" whatever. I give the exact number because somebody lives and sleeps in those homes, and that's why it's important to get the number. But I also tell you we only lost 52. Now, I know everyone in this room doesn't want to lose any; but when you can save 3,896 and only lose 52--and a lot of times you know those houses are gone before you get there--what an awesome job that you're doing in protecting the lives and the families of Texas. So thank you for that.

Now, wouldn't be a TFS slide show without showing some pictures of wildfires. And just to give you a little bit about 2018, how the fire season went, the first part was in the high plains, is normally when things dry out. Then we got moved from the high plains and went down into the Davis Mountains, the mountainous area of Texas, and saw some activity. Then we switched back when the weather got dry, up in the high plains again, and back we went. And there's one here, I hope it comes up because it shows a great cloud plume. It's a migrant fire. A migrant fire had a plume of 75,000 feet; and the thing about that, it created its own weather, hail coming from that storm. It also through firebrands 16 miles into Oklahoma. So we shared our fire with Oklahoma, not that they appreciated it. I called them and let them know it was coming, so I thought that was neighborly of me. Some of these pictures are not going to come up. In June, we headed back to the mountains of West Texas, and right out there. And then the fire activity for the rest of the -- having trouble with the pictures, but anyway, the rest of the fire season. And then we got hot in July and August, we ended up in East Texas and North Texas, is where our fire season was. So that was the fire season of '18. We also had, in the fall -- and these things -- that's all right. I tell you about it. In the fall, switched to flood control and help in flood response. So TFS coordinated the points of distribution, or PODs, of Llano and (indistinct), and distributed 818,000 bottles of water, about 108,000 gallons. We also called the regional -- the RSA coordinator in Austin, when they lost their water treatment plant, and we ended up with 727,000 gallons of water. 149 trucks were used and mobilized by us and coordinated. And we used our emergency operation center and our (indistinct), the smart folks, to come up with an app that they could use on smartphone or dashboard, and it shows the distribution point -- it's really important. It's kind of what we used in Harvey. And we used the same kind of application for Austin. TFS -- and I don't know if it's used in California. TFS was asked to respond to the California fires, had all the fires out there; and they don't always agree with the way we handle things in Texas and fight fires, but when they have an issue, they call Texas and ask for help. And we were able to re-

spond with 299 firefighters and 75 engines that went out there. TFS sent some folks out there, five engines and had four folks with the IMT's meeting with them. And so the neat thing about it was we went twice, and the first time, after got out of there and came back, the second time they asked for them in person; they said, "We want Texas back." So TFS folks did a great job out there, and I wish you could see the picture; there's a Texas flag flying on some apparatus out in California. We wouldn't have rubbed their nose in it; we're just saying you're welcome. That's all.

I want to give you a little bit about TFS today, and the map is not going to show up. I'll give you the numbers. You can see the numbers down here. Since we started in 2008 -- and I (indistinct) TFS our (indistinct) capacity. When we call in our capacity (indistinct) we call TFS and they come, y'all come, and we've had almost 1200 engines and 4,769 firefighters to date that have responded to engines across Texas. And so it's really, really a great organization and a great help to us. We also went to Deer Park and helped. They were called to that ITC facility there in March, and we had ten TFS firefighters go to that facility, and we also were asked, through our Helping Hands program, we were asked to provide some Class B foam, and we had 206 five-gallon buckets of foam there and TFS was able to pick that up, transport it from the Dallas Fire Department down to Deer Park, and delivered the foam. That was a great partnership and another good reason that Texans help Texans. In the spring, we had a little bit of weather this year, and we had 41 TFS personnel mobilized to support stay operations in Anderson, Cherokee, Franklin, Houston, and San Augustine counties, and we did everything from salt crews to instant management teams and helping to assess some damage. In San Augustine, we helped in assessing the mapping of over 200 homes that were damaged by the fires.

All right. So what are we going to look like? Take my word for it, tell you what the maps look like, okay? For this coming summer, obviously, we've had some good rains. And one down side of all the rain is it produces grass and fine fuels. I've had ranchers that call me and tell me how much rain they've had and how much grass is growing and, actually, they're calling it fuel on this. It's kind of scary

when a rancher tells you how much fuel they've got, and ask them what color it is and this time, "Well, it's green," ain't my problem, you know. You need to go bale it or feed it to something. When it cures out, it is going to be my problem; but right now, it's not quite there. But the good news is, in the longterm, our forecasters are telling us it looks like it's going to be in El Nino still, going through the winter. Only places that might be dry a little bit -- and hope the map shows up. You can see where you got temperatures above normal in South Texas, and normally, it ain't pretty; temperatures above normal is not good. And then right in the Hill County, over to East Texas, you see where the precipitation is good to be drying out. That's in the part of the country you are right now, and a little bit south of here. When the timber and brush fuel starts to dry out, you'll have some issues. So we might have a normal to near-normal fire season in that part of the country.

Like I said -- okay, El Nino is what we're looking for. El Nino is good for us. Going to have probably a fire season like this year, which is below normal, good rains. It sucks for California and the Northwest. When we have El Nino, they have dry -- they'll have bad weather, bad fire situations, and having them now. And then when we have La Nina, that's bad for us. So far, so good for us, and we like that. All right. One of those showed up.

I want to talk a little bit about building capacity. Nothing talks about building capacity -- can't say it any better than our (indistinct) fire (indistinct) assistance program. Since we started in 2002, we've had over 1800 fire engines, almost 70,000 pieces of protective clothing go out to VFDs across the state and 80,000 tuitions, training tuitions, and that's awesome. Now, the number is pretty big since we started: 279 million in assistance to grants now, and that gets (indistinct) when go to the legislature and think, well, aren't we done yet, you know, and then I have to tell them how old those trucks are, that in 2002, how many years and how many miles of fires that those trucks have gone to, and I said, "No, not done. This is doing the right thing: Texans helping Texans."

Now, I got a number this year, and I want to share with you all, and I'd share it with the legislature. We did some numbers in, I think, 2005 to present. We did some figuring very conservatively on

how much property that this new capacity has protected across Texas, and it's 17.1 billion, with a B, 17.1 billion that y'all have protected. And so, to me, it ended up being, like, 1100 percent return on their investment, and so I just told them we're a good investment and, yeah, we want some more. So I think that's pretty simple. And it is a good investment, and to y'all's credit to what you've done and how we've worked together and, like I said, y'all have protected that much property across the state, so thank you. Where we do have some wiggle room, we have some money we leave on the table year to year, is in our insurance program, so vehicle insurance and workers' comp insurance. If you've got a department in need of that, contact us because we have some funds available for that.

Now, the 86th legislation, want to tell you a little bit about that. Came to end last month, and we're going to have about 18.7 million this year for our grants program, for VFD grants, about 17.3 for 2604 for the trucks and equipment and about 1.4 in the insurance and -- well, both the insurance programs. We're also going to have -- we're trying to get the TIFMAS contributions doubled. We're at a million a year, and trying to get to 2 million a year. We weren't successful. We're going to keep asking that and keep showing the value that that adds to the State of Texas. But we also had a little House Bill 3070, which established emergency assistance grants through our Volunteer Firefighters Assistance Program. And so if you have a state-declared disaster, up to 10 percent of the 2604 program can go towards repair and replace of equipment damaged or lost during a disaster. You (indistinct) state disaster declared (indistinct) and said, you know, we need some help in repairing equipment when we go through a lot of these bad times and constant bad times. So that's going to be available starting now. We'll be able to help when you have breakdowns and losses.

I want to end with a couple of things, a new initiatives we're doing. I'm sorry the picture's not coming up. We started a new initiative called Ranch Plans, and we're going to start it in the High Plains. And what we're doing is -- it's got two main components. We're going to work with ranchers, large ranchers, and then we're going to work with, also, protecting communities around where those ranches exist. The online ranch plan thing -- the rancher, you

click on anytime, and use an app and go to our website and they're going to have a mapping program that they can put down -- Map My Property or Map My Ranch, and they can put down the things that are important to them and kind of set priorities for their ranch. And it can also show where water sources are for us and whatever information might be helpful for their volunteer fire departments around them, they can provide. They can tell us maybe areas that need -- that are more important to them than others, to protect, and so that's going to be very important, also the combination to gates and things like that, instead of cutting through fences and cutting locks on their gates. Give those emergency local responders that information. So it's something we started we started with. We validated by looking where the large fires are that have occurred over the last several years, and then we put it -- that one, see (indistinct) yeah. Then we have the location of the perimeters of the large fires; validate them and said, yeah, this is where we need to concentrate our efforts. And so then we work with (indistinct) -- oh. Then we worked with communities, and we rank the communities on high, medium, small, the risk that they have. And then start working on real things like mitigation and working with the ranchers. We can do some things -- like anybody know Bob Austin, on the border, and the things that he does, where he protects his communities (indistinct) fire-fighters. He blacks out from around the south and west because he knows that's where the hot (indistinct) and the grass fires burn to and protects his community. And so we're going to work with ranchers to do that. It (indistinct) fire burning, it could be mechanical, fire (indistinct) grazing, it could be whatever. We also found out (indistinct) in 2019 that windbreaks are good fire breaks, so we may start working with doing some trial testing (indistinct) some windbreak trees when fire -- grass fire, moving fire, hits those (indistinct) that drop down and make it where you can attack it.

So the last thing I want to tell you is our drone program, our UAS program that we've started. We've got 30, going to be at 31, and we'll add 60 more in July; and I hesitate to call them pilots,

but they're operators. I have a guy that works for me that's a Black Hawk helicopter pilot, and he gets a little antsy and he gets kind of pissy when I say these guys are pilots. So they're operators of a drone, and I agree with him. None of them are going to jump in a helicopter (indistinct). But what we're using them for -- we're already seen their value in wildfires and reconnaissance. Now going to go to all hazard, along with the Eye of the Storm report that came out after Harvey. We're going to use those in doing some assessments and doing some recon when we have all kind of natural disasters across the state. That's a pretty exciting thing we're doing work with Ag Life and all the rest of the -- the A & M system agencies and working towards a new and improved way of getting some eyes in the sky and getting a good set of eyes. And mapping, they've also found -- I thought it'd take years or months, and I found out they can fly the drones and take pictures and stitch those things together and will look like Google Earth map, 3D map, in about 15 minutes. So it's good to have people under 30 and smart on your staff. I found that out. I can always give them my iPhone, and they can get to work again. So those guys are good to have around. Anyway, sorry the slides didn't show up.

Like I said, I really appreciate your time, and I wanted to see -- you folks are my heroes, and you have protected and done so much and you continue to do so much to protect the citizens of the state that they don't even know about. They get to go home and sleep well at night because of the work you do every day. So thank you so much for what you do, and we'll continue to support you. (Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Once Chris pulls this up, we'll have a video presentation sponsored by Texas Mutual. After that point in time, we'll ask Barbara Marzean and Eric Bourquin to come up and offer a little presentation for us. (Texas Mutual presentation.)

MS. MARZEAN: Thank you. It really excites me to see a video like that, that we made, that shows some of the results from our grants. Is anyone here from the Tanglewood -- fire department in Tanglewood here, by chance? No.

Well, we appreciate them doing that, taking the time out to do that.

Thank you, again, for having us here today. In 1999, we created a workers' comp safety group, former organizations with Texas Mutual Insurance Company. The safety group offers competitive workers' comp rate, a group premium discount of 12.3 percent, specially designed safety resources and programs and performance-based dividends. This year, I'm proud to announce that we paid \$90,363 in dividends to our group members.

Since the start of our group, our members have received more than 2.4 million in group dividends. These dividends are in addition to the general dividends Texas Mutual pays each year to eligible policyholders, which will be a total of \$330 million this year. Because of the success of the safety group, VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual partnered to establish a need-based grant program for emergency responders in Texas for health and wellness. Since 2013, we have awarded over \$800,000 in grants to more than 200 departments in the state. This year, we awarded \$180,000 to 72 departments, for health and wellness programs. The benefits of these programs go a long way in preventing on-the-job injuries and missed work. We've heard some great stories from grant recipients about the impact these grants have made, and this shows us that we're making a difference. We're excited to continue this program.

Are there any departments here that have received one of our health and wellness grants, either this year or in any prior year? Great. That's great to see a good number. So we encourage all of y'all to apply for this grant. We want to continue it.

At this time, I would like to introduce Eric Bourquin, the vice president of safety services for Texas Mutual Insurance Company. MR. BOURQUIN: Thank you, Barbara. And that's really refreshing and puts a smile on your face when you look out and see the hands that raise up that benefits from a grant program. I look forward to this time of the year every year to get to join Barbara for this great event. We're thankful for the partnership with VFIS of Texas that's been built with Texas Mutual over the years, and I think that SFFMA for having us here today to meet with you guys. Keeping employees safe on the job is something that we're passionate about at Texas Mutual. Our safety team is the largest and the best in the

state, and we work diligently with policyholders, including volunteer fire departments, to try to keep folks safe. In the unfortunate event that someone gets hurt, we work hard to get those injured workers back as soon as possible, so they can return to a productive life and activities.

At Texas Mutual, we have same goal of seeing all policyholder employees safe, healthy, and working, and with the help of this grant, we continue to move closer to that goal. Grant recipients are able to purchase safety and wellness equipment that will help keep emergency responders safe and healthy and will be better able to protect all Texans across the state. This program has been successful over the years and the need for support to continue to grow is essential. I'm very proud to announce that this year's VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual safety and wellness grant program totals \$300,000. The grant application period will begin August 1 and run through December 31, with all the funds being administered in the spring of 2020. VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual will post this information on our websites. Once again, we look forward to helping as many departments as we can with this additional funding, with the ultimate goal to reduce and prevent emergency responder injuries. Thank you for your time, and congratulations to recipients, and I encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity. Thank you.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: We sure thank you folks. It's nice to have partners in the fire service such as yourself. All right. At this time, I believe we're going to ask our friends from TEEEX, Director Robert Moore, to come up and give his report.

DIRECTOR MOORE: All right. Howdy. (Howdy from audience.)

DIRECTOR MOORE: There you go. Okay. On behalf of my boss, probably most of y'all are aware, we have a new director for the agency, David Coatney, who was the fire chief for the City of Dallas for quite a few years, he was called to the -- well, actually, I think he had a meeting earlier than what Tom Boggus had, with the chancellor, to go over budget, and then he will be attending the same dinner. Anyway, so he asked me to relay his apologies for not being here. He had planned on being here, but was called to this meeting.

So with that, I'm going to go through a couple of things. You know, our Texas annual fire school advisory board, we meet four times a year, talking about what's going on with the school and also with the annual schools; and, you know, I'm happy to say that y'all have three members on that advisory committee. Those are Chief John Kira-cofe from Jollyville, Chief Mike Montgomery from Houston, Chief Bill Gardner from Leander, and Keith Russell is your industrial representative from here in the City of Longview. Again, we meet four times a year. We talk about what's going on at the school. We try to update each of the different organizations that are represented and have them take back to those organizations any information that we're trying to give out or, also, any recommendations from the organizations back to us. You know, we're a long-standing member of the SFFMA.

Okay. How many TEEEX members -- TEEEX members out in the audience, would y'all stand, please?

(Members standing.)

DIRECTOR MOORE: Okay. So you look around the room and we've got quite a bit of representation here at the conference; and, as Chris said, we are a sponsor of the conference. And all of these guys, you'll see they're working real hard to make sure that this conference happens the way it's planned to happen and all of that. So if you would, please give these guys a round of applause.

(Applause.)

DIRECTOR MOORE: They're the ones that do all of the work, not only at this conference, the TEEEX work, but also out at the fire school and everything; and I get to take all the credit and glory for it, but they do all of the work. We want to continue to -- make sure that we continue, year in and year out, to be a part of the conference and to be a part of the association.

Okay, a little bit about what we've done as far as the annual school report. We held our 11th leadership symposium. Did anybody in here attend that leadership symposium? Okay. We got a few. Well, guess what, folks, more of you could attend, and it's for free. If you're a firefighter in the state of Texas, you can attend that conference for free. We do it every year, every January, okay? We bounce it back and forth from Frisco, Texas, one year; then we'll go

to New Braunfels one year to try to help, you know, meet different parts of the state. So our next symposium, the 12th, will be January the 20th through the 22nd. That's a little later in the year than we typical ran that symposium, but it will be in New Braunfels, Texas, January 20th through the 22nd; and, again, please attend that conference. It's a pretty good price: it doesn't cost you anything to go to the conference. Does cost you for your travel and all of that. The 31st annual spring school, we held it back in March. We had 411 attendees. That's a big number for that spring school, and we're very appreciative of any and everybody that attends that school every year. Our arson investigator conference was also held back in March. We had 277 attendees for it. If you'll take a look at our annual summer schools, that's what we seem to be known for, is the summer schools, even though we do training year-round. And just to let you know, last year we trained over 116,000 emergency responders, okay? That's a huge number. That's the biggest year that we've ever had, and we do appreciate everybody that attended and took one of our classes. The main number that y'all are probably interested in is the 90th municipal school. Will be held, you know, this -- it will be held in July. Our announcements went out in mid March. So you should have gotten an announcement about the school. Hopefully, each and every one of you has already sent your registration in, that's going to be attending. If you haven't and you still have registration to send in, please do so. When we get down to the numbers, these are our preregistration so far, but if you'll take a look at it, the 90th municipal annual school right now -- and let me give you some updated numbers. I do have them right now. Right now, there's 973 people registered for the school. The bad part about that is that's 167 less than at this time when I was up here last year, okay? So that makes me a little nervous, you know. And so I'm asking you: if you haven't registered and planning on going, please do so. Okay? My staff will tell you that they appreciate it, because when I get nervous, they understand. Okay? Let's just put it that way. So, you know, please support that school. You can use 2604 money for that, TIFMAS grants for that. There's ways of attending that school where it doesn't cost you anything for tuition. Also, with the 2604 money, I think they help pay for some of the

housing and stuff like that. So, you know, take advantage of that. Take advantage of those training opportunities that you can do for little or no cost to your department.

You can see last year, our 2604 money for the annual school, in 2018, \$734,535, came from the 2604 money. That's huge. You know, that is huge. The forest service and the legislature are providing that money for your training, so please use it. If you'll look at the TDEM grant and -- and what I say about TDEM is, we administer a grant that they have that you can get hazmat training; you can get free hazmat training. The advantage of it is it can be delivered at your location or somewhere close to you. Okay? So you get on the Helping Hands or the preparingtxdot.org website and request a class. Okay? Somebody will contact you. They'll tell you what all the requirements are, all those numbers and things, and then you can receive that training for free. We also have ECA/EMT TxDOT grant for rural Texas, 2019, and that's \$469,000 in that fund. So, again, another opportunity for free or very low-cost training.

Now, you know every year, we talk about things that are on the horizon at the fire school. We're in an expansion plan and trying to improve the props for the school and everything associated with it, for you folks, for all of our people who attend and come to school. We want you to have the best classrooms, are the best props, the best of everything. So what I'm announcing now is our next phase of our expansion. We're going to build a new building, okay? This new building is going to have classrooms. It's going to have the addition of about seven classrooms. You'll see more, but I'm not counting all of them that's broken up. You know, we have walls that can expand and have numerous classrooms. And then, also, we're going to have a new computer lab where you could come in and you could take tests and things, you know, electronically. This building, I think, is somewhere around -- close to 50,000 square foot. It will be a two-story building. The upper floors will be our computer lab and office space for staff that are currently in portable classrooms or portable office buildings. We put in these portable buildings, I don't know, probably 20 years ago, 18 to 20 years ago. They were a temporary gap, you know; supposed to be temporary. Well, you know how temporary goes in Texas: sometimes it ends up more

of a permanent-type deal. But we're going to replace them. This building is \$31.9 million, okay? That's what this building is going to cost. So it's going to have the best of everything, and we want to make sure that you are able to come and take part in it and enjoy it. So this is the first floor. You can see the layout on it. Second floor, which is, you know, more office space, computer lab, and that type of thing.

All right, our Memorial Wall. I'm happy to say that this year -- really, I would like to not see any names here, but this year so far is the least amount that we have put -- names that we have put on the wall in the last ten years. Okay? So these are the folks that will be going on the wall this year, and we'll do our memorial service, just like we also always do, on Wednesday morning, and have family members and people there; and then all of our students and staff and all will be in attendance. So, you know, we can see some of these names were also people that were names that were called out this morning at the memorial service.

With that said, on behalf of TEEEX and Director Coatney and myself, as director of the fire school, you know, it's an honor or for us to be a part of this organization and also be there to support you, each and every one of you, in your training needs. If we're not going something that you feel that we need to be doing, training-wise, for you across the state of Texas, please get with one of our regional training coordinators that are located all over the state. Okay? We have the state broken into eight regions, and I have eight regional training managers that live in those regions. I want them to be able to keep a finger on the pulse of what the training needs are in those regions.

So, you know, if there's anything that we can do or that we are not doing, you can drop me a line and let me know, if you can't get ahold of your regional training manager. I'll be glad to try to do whatever you need to do or you need us to do.

So that's it. See y'all at municipal school. Thanks a lot. Hope y'all have a great conference.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Chief Moore, thank you again. It's good to be partners with TEEEX. All right. Calling now, from MDA,

Ms. Jennifer Molina.

MS. MOLINA: My name is Jennifer Molina, and I am an -- a development (indistinct) for MDA here in the North Texas area, and this is (indistinct). We are here today, first of all, to say thank you for all you guys do every year with our Build A Dream program. I know in the last four years, you guys have raised, in the state of Texas, over \$1.8 million through (indistinct) programs every year, and we're thankful for that, not only the money it sends to kids here locally, to MDA summer camp, and also helps with research and all of the drug trials and everything that are being FDA approved, and that could not be done without y'all's participation every year. So I will introduce -- this is Storey. She lives in Tyler, and she has been (indistinct) throughout the years, and also we can talk a little bit more about her experience with MDA.

STOREY (UNIDENTIFIED): Hello. How is everyone doing okay? Good. 1987 was not only a great year because the movie Dirty Dancing was first released, but also a year (indistinct) Texas. My parents anticipated my arrival, and my mom had named picked out ten years before I was even born. My mom had a natural birth, and five short hours later comes out healthy, funny-looking baby Storey. Everything was perfect and I was developing as a normal child should; however, everything started to change when I started to walk. Things just never seemed right. My mom said I walked like a little duck and fell a lot. Being I was the baby girl of family, everyone always treated me extra special. At the age of three, people around us began to think I was just being spoiled when I was told to get up and I wouldn't, not by choice. No one knew that.

In 1990, I got my diagnosis of spinal muscular atrophy, also known as SMA, and that year my parents' life turned upside down. What is SMA? SMA is a disease which is caused by mutation in the SMA1, which is the (indistinct). For most us with SMA, our ability to walk, eat, breathe, or drink on our own could be taken away. It is the number-one genetic cause of infant death. So you can only imagine how my poor mother felt hearing this about her three-year-old baby girl. They were told I had this disease, that there was no cure, and I was fine for now but should enjoy the next four years with me because I'd be dead by year seven. As you can see, I'm

still here. I guess the doctor was wrong or I'm just too hard-headed to die.

There are four types of SMAs. I was blessed with what's known as SMA Type 3, which is one of the milder forms of SMA. Although I lost the ability to walk at a young age, my lungs and ability to eat on my own was never an issue. I'm 31 now, and I'm still alive. I never needed any major surgeries, breathing machines, (indistinct), or feeding tubes. I was a (indistinct) kid all the way, and SMA always played a big part of my life. Not only was I the Google ambassador for many years, but the (indistinct) helped me with my first power chair and a ramp for the house. My mom says when I got the power chair, I was so excited, because I told her with a huge smile on my face, "Look, Mom, I can run now." And then came summer camp. Those were the best seven summers any kid could ever ask for. To me, summer camp was even better than Christmas, from a campfire (indistinct) to boating and fishing and (indistinct) and more, even getting stung by a bee on my ring finger at 11:00 p.m. at night, because I was out past curfew because I was in the big girls' cabin. Again, summer camp (indistinct) that was the best part of my year, a week (indistinct) of adventures and experience, making lifelong friends. It helped me develop confidence, and it gave me the ability to face my fears and try new things. I learned (indistinct) and I never felt like the odd one out because everyone was just like me. My favorite camp memories were always of boating and fishing. My camp best friend, who is still one of my best friends almost 15 years later, really bonded at that activity. To get to boating and fishing, we would have to go down this huge bumpy and rocky steep hill. We were lucky to survive the week, but it was worth it. The whole week (indistinct), my best friend and I would chant "Boating and fishing, fishing and boating." I didn't like the fishing part as much as I liked the boating. We would get lifted up in the air, out of our chair, and placed very gently onto the boat. We loved the feeling of the wind in our hair. Did I mention that most of the volunteering at boating and fishing were hunky firefighters?

My other (indistinct) for firefighters began at a young age. Firefighters were always a big part of my life because of the MDA. I learned that firefighters were real-life superheros. They not only

risk their lives to put out fires and run into burning buildings when everyone's trying to run out, to save those who can't save themselves, they are helping those who are living with muscular dystrophy fight our fight, and with every donation and every minute, every bit of their time spent volunteering, they are helping as well. You all volunteer a week of your time to help kids with muscular dystrophy make beautiful memories, while putting a huge smile on their face. How selfless can someone be? And did I mention Fill The Boot? Again, you spend another week of your year supporting MDA. You stand in storefronts and on corners, asking for donations for the MDA. Thank you, firefighters, for being MDAs number-one supporters. Without you and Fill The Boot, MDA would not exist. Truly amazing. (Indistinct) fire motivational. When I found out this about opportunity to tell my story in front of my personal heroes, I felt truly honored and blessed. Since summer camp, a lot has happened. I had a big, beautiful (indistinct) and I had a big, poofy, pink dress, traditional style, of course. I graduated high school, and I went straight to work and even learned to drive. Unfortunately, at the age of 28, I started losing my battle to SMA. Things were looking grim. I had to quit my job of almost six years, and I was slowly losing grip of life. I knew that one day soon, I would also lose my ability to eat by myself and my freedom to drive. My happy-go lifestyle was slipping away, along with my confidence and hope. Hope, confidence (indistinct) instilled in me from a very young age, but as long as I had hope (indistinct) moment like this. However, I never lost my faith. I knew that it wouldn't be like this forever. I had faith that one day, I would be myself again, plus giving up was never an option for me, so I planned on living my days forcing a smile on my face. But in the past few years, there has not been only just one but two new-found treatments for those living with SMA. Ain't God good, y'all? This is huge for the SMA community. How blessed are we that for all of these years with muscular dystrophy, we have the wonders of a new-found treatment. I have no idea if I would even qualify for these medications; I was just grateful that it was an option those of us living with SMA. Immediately after hearing the new advancements, my confidence went up and (indistinct) that the new generation of those diagnosed with SMA now had a chance

at life and maybe wouldn't have to go through all the things I went through with growing up with SMA.

A year ago, I began my own journey with one of these medications. I had a total of seven injections that are administered through my lower lumbar every four months. This is only my experience. Others might be different. With the (indistinct) treatment, I have noticed little changes that to me are huge. Muscles that didn't have much movement are slowly starting to activate, and I'm also reaching easier. I have more stamina and more energy than before. I don't feel like the weight of the world is hanging on my shoulders. To me, that's the easiest way to describe SMA. Although this is not a cure, it is a treatment, which is more than I've ever had.

For the past few months, I've been on a whole new journey to find my inner happiness. Self love (indistinct) in reality, it was buried because of my situation. Now I am learning that no matter what the circumstances are, I can be happy. I am in control of my emotions and my feelings. Bad things happen all the time. People suffer every day. But it's always (indistinct) situations that really matter. No amount of medicine in this world could truly bring me inner peace and happiness. It's my brain, and I choose to be happy. Today, I feel like the happiest woman ever. I am alive, and I am here sharing my story with all of you.

Thank you so much to the MDA for always having my back since way back and for allowing me the opportunity to be here today. And thank you, to all the firefighters, for your 65 years of dedication to MDA and (indistinct). You are helping me to fight my fight. Thank you for hope. Without your contribution, these vital new treatments would not exist today. Thank you for not only your contribution, but you are providing invaluable life experiences. You are also helping build confidence in a vital and long and hard battle of the relentless (indistinct) that is muscular dystrophy. Life is never easy, but I will not give up without a fight. Thank you.
(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. Thank you all again and MDA (indistinct) and all of the firefighters that got out with Fill The Boot. Glad to help.

All right. At this time, I'm going to ask Chaplain Ben Kennedy and Barbara Marzean from VFIS of Texas to talk to us a little bit about the Firefighter of the Year and EMS Responder of the Year. CHAPLAIN KENNEDY: Good morning, again. We had another fun time trying to decide who our Firefighters and EMS Responders of the Year were this year. Always a tough job. Always a pleasant job. Just wish that we had more people and the job was a little bit tougher. So please get those entrants in, spend some time putting the packet together, and make our job more difficult than what it already is. I'm begging you. So what I want to do before we bring Miss Barbara up to talk about our contestant for this year, I want all of the past Firefighters of the Year to please stand.

(Members standing; applause.)

CHAPLAIN KENNEDY: We don't have many here this morning, but I want to go ahead and read the names of those that have been Firefighter of the Year and EMS Responder -- speaking of which, let me have our EMS Responders of the Year stand, too. This is a relatively new award.

(Members standing; applause.)

CHAPLAIN KENNEDY:

But in 1986, we had James L. "Jody" Evans, deceased, from Eden; 1987, Charles Ray Sims, Cedar Hill; 1988, Tom Watson, deceased, from Haskell; 1989, Les Collins, deceased, El Campo; 1990, Clayton W. "Bill" Day, from Kermit; 1991, Jerry Lee Rust, Del Rio; 1992, Gary A. Tilton, Richmond; 1993, Alfred E. "Freddy" Gerik, deceased, West; 1994, Carl Teaff, Sonora; 1995, Mike Hafer, Richmond; 1996, Johnny Merrill, Winters; 1997, Alex Kvapil, Ballinger; 1998, Donnie Pickard, deceased, Ovilla; 1999, Fred Ramirez, deceased, Raymondville; 2000, Don Pullin, Refugio; 2001, Jerry Mutschler, Seminole; 2002, Kenneth Kvapil, Ballinger; 2003, Kip Workman, La Vernia; 2004, Matthew Cornell, Richmond; 2005, Patrick Hlavaty, El Campo; 2006, Peter Thomson, Jr., Anson; 2007, Ricardo Saldana, Mission; 2008, Anthony Cargile, Santa Fe; 2009, Ubaldo D. Perez, Edinburg; 2010, Richard Drewry, Edinburg; 2011, Richard Van Winkle, Alvarado; 2012, Clemente Sanchez, Sinton; 2013, Dennis Gage, Kilgore; 2014, David

Wade, Deer Park; 2015, Shawn Snider, Edinburg; 2016, Curtis Brown, Dalhart; 2017, Alonzo Morales, Jr., Goliad; 2018, Steven Loving, Ingleside. Those are your Firefighters of the Year.

EMS Responders of the Year: 2012 Karen Pickard, Ovilla; 2013, Edward Konick III, Alvarado; 2014, James Carr, Decatur; 2015, Gerald Weniger, McQueeney; 2016, Timothy Keirn, Chisholm Trail; 2017, Scott White, Hartley; and 2018, Terry Hanks, Friberg-Cooper.

And now for this year's winner, I'm going to ask Miss Barbara to come up and make her announcement.

MS. MARZEAN: On behalf of VFIS of Texas, it is my pleasure and privilege to once again sponsor the annual Firefighter of the Year award. This year, we had eight nominees for Firefighter of the Year. We'd like to have 16 next year, so we want all of you to go back to your departments and districts and work on that for next year. To be nominated for this award and be selected from all of the firefighters in the great state of Texas, is a tremendous honor; and we commend all the nominees for being selected and recognized by their peers, their departments, and their districts. It is a tough job for our committee, but one we take very seriously to select one deserving firefighter to represent the state of Texas.

Now I'm going to introduce the nominees for the Firefighter of the Year award. If you'll please come forward and stand up in the front here with Ben. Richard Alvarado from Seminole Fire Department, Permian Basin District; Scott Charbula from Louise Fire Department, Guadalupe District; Robert Hernandez, Pharr Fire Department, Rio Grande Valley District; Rex Klesel, Alvin Fire Department, Gulf Coast (indistinct) District; Robert Langston, Ballinger Fire Department, Hill Country District; Roland Perez, Jr., Friberg-Cooper Fire Department, Red River District; Justin Schroeder, Brenham Fire Department, Central District; and Kelly Vandygriff, Abernathy Fire Department, Panhandle District.

Congratulations and let's give a big round of applause.

(Applause.)

MS. MARZEAN: We narrowed this field to three finalists, and those three finalists are Richard Alvarado, Rex Klesel, and Kelly Vandygriff. Once again, let's congratulate all the nominees and the

finalists.

(Applause.)

MS. MARZEAN: As always, selecting that one winner is a very, very tough decision and one that our committee does not take lightly. We spend a great deal of time trying to make the right decision to select one firefighter to represent the state of Texas. We are proud to present the winner and their department a check for \$1,000 from VFIS of Texas and a very nice helmet trophy from Casco Industries. In addition, we have something special this year. Steven Loving, last year's Firefighter of the Year, was able to get for us for the winner a flag hung over the state capitol, along with the certification that says, "State of Texas House of Representatives: This certifies that the Texas flag herewith presented to the Firefighter of the Year 2019 by State Representative J. M. Lazano, was flown over the capitol of the Sovereign State of Texas. State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association in witness thereof and pursuant to the authority vested in me, I hereunto set my hand and seal of office in Austin, Texas, this the 23rd day of June, 2019." And we're going to do that every year, and Steven also spoke with them. They're going to pass a House Resolution next session and in their honor. So we are very excited for that, and that's going to go to the winner.

Without further ado, it gives me great pleasure to announce this year's SFFMA State Firefighter of the Year is Richard Alvarado.

(Applause.)

MS. MARZEAN: If you would like to please come up and here and accept your award. And, Steven, would you like to come as well?

MR. ALVARADO: Let me pull myself together here a second. I've been a nervous wreck since our convention back in Seminole, Texas, that we hosted. This is a great honor. This is something I thought I would never reach, typically because I praise my firefighters within my department. And when I won Firefighter of the Year for my department in Seminole, Texas, I was astonished because I had five or six that people I had nominated. And I said, "You can't nominate me. It's your department. I do this for you."

So I'm going to continue to try to get the Permian Basin up here, hopefully -- the next conference is in Lubbock, Texas, a little shorter

drive. This drive was about seven hours. I'm in a truck full of kids, if you've seen us around. We have that little circus in that little wagon around here. So a great honor. Loss for words right now. I really appreciate it. Everybody on the board, thank you. My wife, biggest supporter, putting up with me. She knows we're here for the fire department, and it's also her birthday today.

(Applause.)

MR. ALVARADO: Thank you. Thank y'all.

MS. MARZEAN: So this is now our 8th year to sponsor the distinguished EMS Responder of the Year award. This award honors and recognizes outstanding EMS Responders. We commend the individuals that are nominated for this award for their leadership, accomplishments, and involvement as an emergency service responder. This year, we received three nominations for this award. With this award and the Firefighter of the Year award, we should really have nominations from every district every year. Please make sure your district submits nominations for both of these awards next year. Let's make the committee really work hard. There are worthy individuals that should be recognized and receive these awards, and we don't want to see them miss out on this opportunity.

At this time, I'm going to introduce and recognize the nominees for the state EMS Responder of the Year award. Please come forward. Dolores Finney, Freer Fire Department, South Central District; Christopher Mercer, Decatur Fire Department, Red River District; and Tim Schafer, Hartley Fire Department, Panhandle District. Congratulations to you gentlemen for your nominations on the EMS Responder of the Year award. Give them that big round of applause.

(Applause.)

MS. MARZEAN: As with the other awards, selecting one winner was not an easy task. We had three very qualified and deserving individuals, and I will say that this selection was very, very tough this year. With that, we are going to present the winner and their department a check for \$1,000 from VFIS of Texas and a beautiful eagle trophy that was presented from Government Capital. In addition, they will also receive a flag flown over the state capitol that

says, "This certifies that the Texas flag here was presented to the EMS Responder of the Year 2019 by State Representative J. M. Lozano was flown over the capitol of the Sovereign State of Texas. State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association and witness thereof and pursuant to the authority vested in me hereunto set my hand and seal of office in Austin, Texas, this 23rd day of June, 2019."

With that, I am going to now introduce the 2019 State EMS Responder of the Year, is Tim Schafer.

(Applause.)

MR. SCHAFER: Good afternoon. I'm not sure what to say. This is pretty unexpected. When Scott told me he had nominated me for the Panhandle Region award, a month or so ago, and then ended up with that, and then now this. It's very unexpected. I don't really feel like I deserve this award any more than the rest of my crew, my team. I feel like when we're out there in the field, it's -- we're a unit; we're not an individual, in that truck. And I've kind of focused on the EMS side of the fire department, ever since I started in '04; and now the last year or so, I've kind of really focused on the EMS side and I don't take fire call quite as much as I did, just because the EMS side has gotten very busy and our advanced personnel on the department is pretty short-handed, so I make a lot of the calls and (indistinct). So I take a little more time for my family and that kind of thing. I've kind of quit taking fire calls so much, but still do the EMS calls. One thing that has stuck with me since one of the first classes that I took as a basic EMT: DeNisa Brown was an instructor, and she made a comment that has stuck with me through my entire career. She said there's two kinds of people that get in this business. There's the kind that get in this for what it can do for them, and then there's the kind that get in it for what they can do for others. And I have endeavored to be the second, and I want to continue to do that and I want to pass that vision on to my children. I think that's our future of the volunteer EMS services, is that we do that: pass the vision of community and vision of service on to our children. And I'm a Christian. I try to spread God's light in the community. I'm also a human. My crew will tell you that they've seen me in my most stressful moments, that many times on my way to a call, I

pray to (indistinct) to use my hands in a way that would be to His Honor and glory, and I believe that he improves my skills tremendously, and give honor to the Lord for that. And I also am not above swearing when I miss an IV that I have to have, so I'm human. I want to thank my wife for her support. She is not here today. We had a son last Friday and --

(Applause.)

MR. SCHAFER: Thank you. And I told her I didn't think he needed to be here.

(Laughter.)

MR. SCHAFER: So, anyway, thank y'all for your support. I want to really thank my department in Hartley and Dalhart. We work together very well. I think this is boastful, but I'm going to say it anyway. You ain't going to find any better services in the Texas state than in the top, in the Panhandle. So if you want to have a wreck, that's a good spot.

(Laughter.)

MR. SCHAFER: Anyway, thank y'all.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. Congratulations to all of the candidates and especially the winners. All right. As we (indistinct) here, we're going to go to our next topic, which is the NFPA update, Southwest Regional Director Bob Sullivan.

DIRECTOR SULLIVAN: Hello, everyone. That's a tough act to follow, so thank you again and congratulations for Richard and Tim for your awards. That's awesome. Bob Sullivan, I'm your regional NFPA representative. I'm based in Colorado. Don't hold that against me. We just came off of our annual conference here in San Antonio last week. Might have gotten to enjoy a Texas-sized margarita or two, so that's kind of nice. Might have to go back for a couple of more. My background is 31 years in the fire service, myself, before I started with NFPA, both as firefighter and fire marshal. (Indistinct), I'm here to be your representative and help you out. I know different feelings about NFPA standards out there, and that kind of stuff. I'm here to help you to do your job better. So I'm going to give you my contact information real quick. My email address is bsullivan@nfpa.org. My phone number is (720) 237-1752. Feel free

to give me a call anytime when you're going through some information or visit our website, things like that. If you haven't used our website before and you want help with anything, how to use some of the processes and things like that, give me a call. We're here to (indistinct).

So, first, as you know, we're a nonprofit association. Your membership fees all help us produce free resources for you guys. Yes, we charge for our standards, but we have a lot of other stuff on the website that is free to download and freely available, a lot of reports on different subjects that are important to the fire service, things like cancer in the fire service, is a big topic nowadays. We have a lot of information for that topic. Reports, studies that are underway, initiatives, things you can do to help prevent cancer yourself and in your department, all those sorts of things. We have a research foundation working on new technologies for the fire service. We heard earlier from the state forester, we have wildfire prevention programs. We can help protect your communities. Community risk reduction resources. We have a new hot works safety program for welding and job safety, things like that. That program was developed after two Boston firefighters were killed a couple of years ago in a construction fire that was started by welding. So I'm happy to help you with that. And, of course, we have all of our resources available for public education, just to name a few. Some new standards that are either recently published or underway, the new NFPA 3000 for active shooter situations. I'm happy to give a presentation about that standard in your community, about an hour long. Don't charge for that. And we do encourage you to invite your partner agencies, other (indistinct) fire departments and police departments, various other organizations responding with you to an active shooter incident.

We mentioned drones earlier today, a new standard out for drones and all the required qualifications that go along with being a drone operator. The fire service is getting a lot more into the use of drones (indistinct) for all (indistinct) for different functions, including at the operational level. This new standard helps provide information for that.

One (indistinct) I want to talk about is (indistinct) our new standard 855 that's coming out probably later this year or early next year, our energy storage systems. Simply put, energy storage systems are battery systems that help to expand the power grid. And they're wonderful technology except for when they catch fire, and then that's when they become our problem. And they require a little bit different methods of fire-fighting than a normal structure fire. We had an incident recently in (indistinct), Arizona, outside of Phoenix, where four firefighters were injured when an energy storage system exploded after they arrived on scene. So we're trying to get the information out about those units and, again, I can come and provide some information in your community, free of charge, and help training for your firefighters. We also have a couple of online training programs for energy storage systems. We'll give you the basics of what they are, how to recognize them, what they're all about, what they require in terms of fire-fighting. Just to mention quickly, the only way to put a fire out in an energy storage system is with water, and that kind of is a little counterintuitive for us, because what have we learned since the first day of fire school: don't put water on an electrical fire. But we've learned through time and research and a couple of bad incidents and everything else, that water is the only thing that will put these things out, and a lot of it has a lot to do with cooling them off, as opposed to putting them out. That's why (indistinct) a different method of fire-fighting. It's not even obvious when the fire is out, like it is with structure fires, if you will. Basically, they cool down enough where they stop burning intensely, and then you transfer it back over to the building (indistinct). So just different methods that will require new training and as we move forward. And it doesn't matter what size community you're from, you see them popping up all over the place. They (indistinct) attach to the side of a new residential home, all the way up to large construction dumpster-sized (indistinct) size units that require own separate installation on property and have built in fire protection and things like that. There's a lot of new information about energy storage systems.

I just want to reiterate, I think I might have mentioned when I

was here last year, everybody that's sitting in the room today can be part of our standards development process. It doesn't matter if you're an NFPA member or not. It's open to the public. It's a public process. So when you hear about a new standard that's underway or, of course, all of our standards are updated every few years, part of the process is to say, you know, hey, that standard needs changing or an update or something missing last time around, or whatever, the process is open to everybody and here to help you with that. I can't put comments in myself, since I'm an NFPA employee; but you, as the fire service, are the ones that drive what's in the standards. That helps the process. And if you want to apply to me on a technical committee for one of the standards, all the technical committees that write the standards are made up of our colleagues out there, not NFPA employees, fellow first responders, firefighters, emergency responders out there doing this job every day.

The last thing I want to mention is residential sprinklers. We do have a sprinkler coalition here in Texas. It provides education for communities on residential sprinklers. When I talk about residential sprinklers, I'm specifically talking about sprinklers that go into one- and two-family homes, new construction. Currently in Texas, those are prohibited in most communities and taken out of the code, except for communities above a certain size. We're trying to work with the coalition to provide more education on sprinklers to bring that back into the code in all communities. A very important thing I want to mention with residential sprinklers, sometimes, when I'm talking to folks in the fire service, I hear concerns that sprinklers are going to put us out of business; and that's just not true. And all you got to look at is sprinklers have been around for over a hundred years. We're all still here. They haven't put us out of business yet, and they're not going to. But what they do do is they make situations safer for both us and the citizens and help save lives. Another important connection for everybody in the fire service is another tool in the toolbox to help prevent cancer in the fire service, also. If we're able to use sprinklers to help knock down some of that fire before we arrive, then when we get there and finish it off, that's that much less toxins we'll be exposed to, one more way to help prevent -- or reduce cancer in the fire service. So we're go-

ing to be trying for additional efforts here in the upcoming years to expand the use of residential sprinklers in new home construction, and we're hoping for your support in doing that, and I'll be in touch in the future to tell you more.

So thank you, everybody. Appreciate your time, and have a great conference.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. At this point in time, we're going to ask Dr. Liz Morris to come up and give us a presentation on Rebuild Texas.

DR. MORRIS: Good afternoon, hello. Nothing more brutal than that meeting after lunch. I'll keep it brief. Y'all looking in the program for (indistinct), it's not there. So surprise. I'm Liz Morris. I work with the Governor's Commission to Rebuild Texas. I'm going to give you all a quick update and let you know what we're doing and we're still working for y'all. I know there's a lot of confusion and rumors going on out there, so that's why I'm here, and here the rest of the day. I'll give you my contact information so that you can get in touch with us. This gentleman is always on the front row and we've been in a lot of meetings together. I think he might be following me.

(Laughter.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sorry about that.

DR. MORRIS: Rebuild Texas. How many of you have ever Googled "Rebuild Texas"? If you Google it, try to find the website, you will come up with "Rebuild Texas Fund, Governor's Commission, does not have any money." We do not allocate funds, and we have had none awarded in the legislature or through grant funding or donations. What we are here to do is be a conduit for the folks that have been affected by disasters. It was formed because of Harvey, but it's not just limited to that. So I have gotten a lot of phone calls about "Where is my money?" and "Y'all came out and did a bid, and we haven't seen you since." So that is not us. So if you've got folks in your communities that are mad at Rebuild Texas, that's not us. Well, they might be mad at us. So Governor Abbott established Rebuild Texas and named Texas A & M University System Chancellor John Sharp as the only commissioner, not only to put all of A & M's as-

sets under his control, for the disaster response, but all university systems in the state. So this isn't just an A & M gig. You noticed I didn't say "howdy" when I got here, right? How many of y'all are relieved I didn't do that? Y'all are a tough group. Need to make these faster. The Eye of the Storm report, there's a lot of great information in there. It's about as much fun as watching paint dry; but if you have questions about why recommendations were made and (indistinct) and group gave us the information to put those forward, those are all from the town hall meetings. I'll stop asking y'all questions, because you don't answer me, but I will tell you that we did listen, and your feedback was put in here.

So there are 44 recommendations in the report. The recommendations were tied to the findings directly from those meetings. In the legislature, there were 261 emergency management or Harvey-related bills filed. Seventy-three of those passed both houses, five were vetoed by the governor, four of those five were tied directly to the report. And we understand why the governor did veto those. Thirty-eight of the recommendations did pass and were covered in 24 bills. Forty-nine of those bills were tied directly to the report. The (indistinct) who is the chief of the Texas Division of the Emergency Management is also the Vice Chancellor at A & M at this item, is coming in as that legislation passed, coming in as a stand-alone state agency. They're not going in under TEEEX or taking over forest service or any of that. They will be an entity by themselves, a state agency, in the A & M system. But they will, hopefully, bring a little more cohesive (indistinct) structure and recovery structure. That's what it's intended to do. So one of the things that's very important and why Rebuild Texas was formed was to cut through the red tape; and, to be quite candid, the money for the 2015 floods is just now being released for applications. So folks that lost homes and damaged businesses and things in the 2015 floods, your money is going to be available soon. Harvey, we'll see. But the one thing Sharp said, "How hard can it be? Not like we don't have these disasters all the time." We are working at a federal level, as well, to try to see about expediting the writing of the plans and getting that funding to you quicker. So our work hasn't stopped. I've got my contact information up here. I encourage you, if you have questions,

call me. The voicemail, if you leave a voicemail it gets sent directly to my email if not in my office. You can send me an email to my work address or you can send it to the Rebuild Texas address. If you send it to the Rebuild Texas address, you're sending it to me as well. I cover that.

So I really appreciate working with the association, which has given me an opportunity to talk to you and working with you guys, because y'all have done (indistinct) recover from Harvey, but you're there every day and every disaster, and bills were passed (indistinct) by Chancellor Sharp very specific (indistinct). It's not just about hurricanes. It's about wildfires, tornadoes, anything that happens in the state; and this plan is, Rebuild Texas, is for everybody.

Thank you for your time.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you, Dr. Morris. All right. At this time, I'm going to call on President Richardson for his report.

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Thank you. I'll work to keep this brief. The report, I'd like to give you a little information about what we've done this year. It started out rough. This year started out really tough, from the (indistinct) to the (indistinct) in our organization that -- within a month of this conference last year, including an issue that Gabi left us at the end of the conference last year.

The staff and others have stepped up and done a remarkable job through the year to fill that hole, but I'm going to be honest with you and say that a truth, a very strong truth is, we didn't know what we didn't know. And Gabi for ten years had taken care of things, taken care of things. And Chris didn't know -- he didn't know about problems. We didn't know about problems. Why? Because Gabi fixed problems and nobody ever knew about it. So there's been challenges throughout the year because of that. But in the end, we did have a good year. Growth Zone, I know that's a hated word in here, but by January -- actually, in the first part of the year after the conference, they had already had most of it working well. We had a little bit of issue on the training on it. Some people stepped up in the association and staff, Kevin and Chris, Andy. I want to mention those. Andy Dexter and Bill Southern, they stepped up and developed a new training for the program that we had. We set that out to the training coordinators. They got to see it at the planning confer-

ence. And all of you know, every since I came on this board, the day I came on it, the software issue was there beating us all on the head. And a lot of people went into that meeting still pretty upset about it. They came out of it with a lot of good things to say. We've taken that training, that new training that they all developed, that we developed in-house, and they've gone out through the state this year, meeting with training coordinators, and the feedback has been great. So we know that we've gotten to the point where our software issue is done. Now, there's no such thing as software being completely done. There will always be updates. There will always be adjustments. You will continue to ask for things that you would like to see it do, that it comes close to doing it, and you believe that a little bit more that it could do would help us, and we will work on those things.

We developed a certification program through requests from the TISB. We've approved a certification for industrial firefighter. It's a combination of several other elements of industry training, and they had asked for this for a while. We've got that developed. It's going through the development of the test now, between our people and TEEEX. TEEEX is offered to help us out with the validation process on that, and it's moving forward. We're really, really happy with that. One of the good things about that. That provides an incentive that we haven't always had. We have a lot of good industrial people in our organization, and they're a vital part, because a lot of us, that don't live in large industrial areas, we don't realize the relationship between the industry first responders and the municipal or county or ESD responders around them. They work just like they're another fire department anywhere else. They have mutual-aid agreements. They help each other. They take care of one another. But with those industries, they're the ones paying the bills, and there's not really been something there that enticed or gave value to them to have individual member (indistinct) throughout their whole organization. This certification will do that. So we're actually hopeful that it will actually help with our membership increases.

Chris had filed for a SAFER grant, and the association was awarded \$1.4 million for recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters in the state of Texas. That thing has gotten off the ground.

There was a couple of little bobbles. Some of that was because of rules changes at FEMA. But it's gotten off the ground, and the gentleman that you saw in the booth yesterday has taken off with it. Some of you have gone through some of his workshops. If you're out in the state and you see those billboards that are out there, those were just recently purchased and put up. We're getting a return on it. He's showing returns on how many people come to him or they're sending in applications to become volunteer firefighters in rural communities, where this promotion is actually starting to spread. So we're seeing fruit from that tree.

Fire Chief Development Program. We're in our third class, our third year. It's been extremely popular. The people that have gone through it -- actually, how many of you in here, stand up, if you've gone through or you currently are in the Fire Chief Development Program? (Members stand.)

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: Very good. That was something that was developed as a direct result of what all of you wanted. We're in the third year of it, and this year we made a change. We started out giving four classes over the course of a year, and we've moved to five classes, and based on feedback from the first classes. So it's going well. We had an issue, but we've got them repaired. We had repairs that were done to the headquarters this year, including the air conditioning.

And a really good element that's come up this year is the increases in the benefits to our members throughout the state, especially in accidental death and dismemberment and line-of-duty injury or death. But most of all, what I want to talk about a little bit, is -- not getting into the weeds in the details, because going to give a report later in the week, but this was a legislative year. Legislative year consumes the organization quite a bit. It's a busy, busy time once that starts, and a lot of the work coming up to it. Make sure that, one, we provide a week to put forward legislation to help you and we can watch for it and work to defeat any legislation that comes up that might could help the volunteer fire service. Last year, again, we had lost our lobbyist. We kind of got late in the game; we didn't have a whole lot of pre. In past years, we've always had them in the year before the legislative session started, and they've been able to do a lot

of preparatory work. We didn't have that ability this last time. But we finally hired a guy kind of late in the game. We also were blessed that he proposed to do this year at probably about half of the price of what we paid in the past, which was pretty remarkable. This guy has been one of the best investments I think we've made in a long, long time. His name is J. Pete Laney. His father, Pete Laney, was in the legislature for 20-plus years. He was the Speaker of the House for over ten years. A very well-known family in the Texas legislature, and it showed. But more than anything, Pete Laney has been representing mostly rural agricultural interests, for many years, and he kind of thought and -- saw this and thought, well, you know, this is going to be representing the rural firefighters in those communities, those farming communities, and he thought it would be interesting. He immediately began to build his knowledge about -- he had no idea about the fire service, except he told me one day, he goes, "You know" -- when you hear him in a couple of days, you'll going to laugh because he has that long drawl: "You know, all of my best friends were volunteer firefighters," and he said, "I was too busy doing other things." I won't tell you what he said.

(Laughter.)

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON: But he said, "I just think this will be a good thing for me to do for all those friends that I had," and he has climbed on top of everything about this association. He knows a tremendous amount about us, sometimes more than we thought we knew, and he is -- he works tirelessly, many times. I was getting texts from him 11:30 at night and get another one at 5:00 in the morning, and he was working on our issues at that time. And we had a successful session. We didn't get everything we wanted. Some of the things we got, the bills we got past, got changed enough that, you know, they're not really -- a little bit disappointing, but we got them passed and we can work on fixing them later. We had one veto right at the 11th hour, and J. Pete will give you a really good detailed accounting of that later this week.

It's been a good year. It's been a busy year. With all the changes that occurred at the front end, everybody had to scramble. Our staff in the office has worked down a person all year. We instituted -- I don't know if all of you know this, but we pretty well instituted that

on Fridays, that the staff lock the doors, set the phones to go to record, and do nothing but work on their backlog stuff, and that has helped tremendously. That has helped. And they're getting things done. So I hope in the future, we can get them a little more help; and we'll look forward to that and think about that, and we'll get you served a little bit better.

So thank you. This has been a wonderful ride. I've said that already. I enjoyed serving with this board, I enjoyed serving each and every one of you, and I look forward to continuing to serve in other ways in this organization.

The last thing I will say is the president's reception tonight is at Rowdy Creek Ranch, 4048 Texas 300 in Gilmer. It's between here and Gilmer. Buses will be able to pick you up out here and help you along the way. With the weather coming in, they set up some tents, plus there's some indoor part of the venue. So, hopefully, the weather is not going to affect us out there. But I look forward to seeing you all. Thank you, thank you to each and every one of you. I appreciate everything you've done for this association, for this board, and we'll keep working for you. Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. Thank you, Mike. At this time, Secretary Brent Allen, I believe, will come up and give us the nomination procedures.

SECRETARY ALLEN: All right, folks. The nomination procedures are pretty simple. We use Robert's Rules of Order. The executive board has decided that nominations for officers will have a total of seven minutes each to make your nomination, your second, and your presentation you may need to make at that time. All nominations will be in alphabetical order by candidate last name. All nominations will take place on the opening business session of the 23rd. That's today.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: So at this time, I'm going open the floor for nominations for 4th Vice President. If you plan on making a nomination, start making your way up, to move this along.

PAST PRESIDENT EDWARDS: (Indistinct.) You can't hear me up there? I'm Deloss Edwards, past president of this association. I'm here today to make a motion to elevate the chair. This motion will include the following nominations: be Mike Richardson, Immediate

Past President; Tim Smith, President; Richard Van Winkle, 1st Vice President; Chuck Richardson, 2nd Vice President; Donny Boggs, 3rd Vice President. Would also like to include the following nominations: Brent Allen for Secretary; Jim White, Assistant Secretary; and Ben Kennedy, Chaplain. This concludes my motion. Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: We have a motion on the floor to elevate officers, past presidents, from Deloss Edwards. Second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Got a second. All those in favor signal by saying aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All those opposed same sign? (No audible response.)

PAST PRESIDENT STEPHENS: Motion carries.

PAST PRESIDENT PERRY: Mr. Chairman, I'm Henry Perry, Past President 2017. I would like to place the name of Curtis Brown for 4th Vice President nomination. He is a proven leader and dedicated to the fire service of Texas. Last year, he announced in Arlington at the 142nd annual conference and convention that he's running for 4th Vice President, attended many different conventions, and this is his 25th year as a volunteer firefighter and served the last ten years as fire chief. He also served in Dalhart and Parker counties as fire marshal and emergency management coordinator. He's had opportunity to visit with lots of firefighters and fire chiefs throughout the state of Texas and in the Panhandle region, and he is past president of the Panhandle District. At this time, I would like to place the name of Curtis Brown in the nomination for 4th Vice President.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Perry. Mr. Brown, would you like to say a few words?

CHIEF TIDWELL: I'm Billy Tidwell, fire chief of Ralls, 1st Vice, Panhandle District. Curtis Brown has been an integral part of the Panhandle. He's done a lot of really good things. He's served as chairman of our games committee for many years, as well as his wife DeNisa. His daughter has also been our sweetheart and a past mascot, and I think he would be an integral part of this association and a good asset. Thank you.

CHIEF BROWN: Thank you, Board, for allowing me to speak today. I'm Curtis Brown. I'm the fire chief for Dalhart. I've done a lot of miles this year, but a fun ride. I've seen 16,000 miles this year on the campaign trail alone, with trying to keep up with the Joneses. (Laughter.)

CHIEF BROWN: But it's been entertaining. I have met a lot of people. I tell you what, me and Tom Jones became really good friends over this campaign trail. We found out we're a lot alike; you know, we're both tow truck drivers in our off time, things like that. I've got a vision. I believe I'd be a good fit for the current board that's working on things. I believe we've got things we need to look at, as an organization, in the near future. Some of that being the voting. We're going to have to look at that. Some of it being length of the conventions, things like that. Also, I believe that the recruitment and retention program is very, very important for the volunteer fire service in our state, and that's something that needs to continue after the grant program, so we can have the funds to do that. I love budgeting. I love bylaws. Those are kind of some of my fun things to do at the department. So I just ask for your support. We have a hospitality room. Come out to the party on the patio at the Holiday Inn Monday night. We're going to have brisket sandwiches out there. I guess 5:30 to 9:00 o'clock out there, if you'd like to come by and visit. Also, we may play a little bit of Cornhole out there. We brought some of those games. So I'd love to be on that board, and I believe that I have tried my hardest, no regrets; what happens, happens. But thank you for your support I've had throughout the organization and the district. Remember, "What can Brown do for you?"

(Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, my name is Tommy Anderson. I'm past president of this organization, and I'm here to pledge the name of Thomas Earl Jones on the ballot for 4th Vice President. Tom is the chief of the Madisonville Fire Department. He's been in National Fire Department for 28 years. He's been in the fire service for 37. He is -- was a TEEX instructor for 32 years. He's been very involved in that end of our group. He is also one of the original members of the Texas Task Force 1. He helped

them get some of that started, off the ground. He has a degree from OSU as a fire station engineer, and he's currently training manager, regional training manager, for Williams Fire Protection. And he is also currently president of the East Texas District. So I'd like to place Tom Jones on the ballot. Thank you.

CHIEF TYLER: Jerry Tyler, president of Northeast Texas District. I'd like to second the nomination for Tom Jones.

CHIEF JONES: My name is Tom Jones. I appreciate the opportunity to go forward with this. It's been a very interesting year, and discussion of why I wanted to do it or why would anybody want to do it, and I believe that all you have to do is ask any of our past presidents why, and it's for the betterment of our firefighters in the state of Texas. I believe right now, there's a movement going on, with people that we have going through the chairs, in a direction that make our organization -- keep our tradition, but also, at the same time, meet the expectations and meet the needs of a changing fire service in the state of Texas. I believe that the state of Texas has got some of the most powerful organizations with DMRs, TEEX, the Texas board service, the Texas industrial board, industrial firefighters; are all very strong organizations, probably some of the strongest in the country. And if we can bring all of these organizations together, I don't see how you could stop, you know, the legislation that we want to get done. Would be a very powerful organization. So we have a hospitality group tomorrow night at Fire 30 at the Holiday Inn in the boardroom. We'll look forward to seeing you. If you have any questions whatsoever, I'll be around tonight and all week and very open on, you know -- if you ask me, I'll tell you, and hopefully we'll agree; but if not, it's just kind of the way we're going with it. So thank you very much. Tom Jones running for 4th.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Are there any other nominations for 4th Vice President? Any other nominations for 4th Vice President? That's all for 4th Vice President. Being none, entertain a motion to close nominations for 4th Vice President?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Brown. Second on the floor?

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: I think a second is not required for

our nominations.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Very good.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Do you have a motion for (indistinct) record? A second? Have a second. All in favor, signify saying aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Opposed same sign?

(No audible response.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Motion carries. At this time, I'm going to open the floor for nominations for mascot.

CHIEF SCHEFFER: Good afternoon. My name is Brian Scheffer, chief of the Brenham Fire Department and secretary for Central Texas District. I'm here on behalf of Landon Flisowski. He is one of our members of the fire department. His dad has actually served in the fire service in Washington County, a little over 25 years, and Landon's gone everywhere his dad went. We all have them, and he's one of them. He goes everywhere we'd go. Landon just got through serving as the Central Texas District's mascot this past year, and he's looking forward to moving on to the next level. Landon is aspiring to be a firefighter in the future, and this is one way he wants to give back to his community. Landon is fixing to go into junior high, fixing to start his football career, so watch out; he's the next big thing. He goes everywhere we go and helps with fire (indistinct) fish fries and drills. He comes every year and he's always around. If he's not here at the fire station or at the training center, or whatever we're doing, he's showing cattle. And they travel all over the state of Texas doing cattle. And they also show chickens all over the state of Texas. So if you need beef or chickens, this is the man you need see. So, everybody, I would like to place the nomination for Landon Flisowski for mascot.

(Applause.)

CHIEF BIZZELL: Mr. Chairman, Honorable Board Members, members in the industry, I appreciate the opportunity to come before you to second that nomination for Landon a/k/a Slick. That's what I call him. He's pretty slick at what he does. He would certainly make everyone in this organization very proud as mascot for this great association. I think Chief Scheffer pretty much said it all. He goes everywhere with the family. If you see his family, you're going

to see him; you're going to see him working hard. You will even see him -- he even knows what kind of beer I'm drinking, and goes to the right trash can.

(Laughter.)

CHIEF BIZZELL: Anyway, it's an honor and a privilege to be here before you today to second that nomination. He would be a great asset and a team player for this organization. Thank you very much.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you. Would you state your name, please?

CHIEF BIZZELL: I'm sorry. I'm Lynn Bizzell, Fire Chief, Fredericksburg Fire Department and 2nd Vice President of Central Texas District.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you.

LANDON FLISOWSKI: I'm Landon Flisowski. I accept the nomination for mascot. I support SFFMA mascot. I have Hospitality Room 232. I would like your support and vote Wednesday. Thank you.

(Applause.)

ASST. CHIEF JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, executive board, my name is Bubba Johnson, 2nd Assistant Chief of (indistinct) East Fire Department. Also a member of the Gulf Coast and Tri-River District. I would like to nominate Casey Johnson as mascot for 2019. Great grandfather, grandfather, and myself have been in the fire service for many years. In fact, Casey's uncle just joined our department as well. So we have plenty of family members in the service. I'd like to nominate Casey Johnson.

(Applause.)

MR. WILLIAMS: My name is Gary Williams, Pasadena Fire Department. I second the nomination of Casey Johnson for mascot.

(Applause.)

CASEY JOHNSON: Good afternoon, Mr. President, members, and board, I am Casey Johnson, member of the Gulf Coast Fire Department. I'm planning on running for mascot. I will have a hospitality room at the Holiday Inn, if you would like to stop by. And I would like your support on Wednesday.

(Applause.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Do we have any other nominations

for mascot? Other nominations? Last call for nominations for mascot.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Move to close nominations.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Motion on the floor to close nominations for mascot.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Second on the floor. All in favor signify by saying aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Same sign say no.

(No audible response.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Motion carries. All right. I guess at this time, I'm going to call on Mr. Harvie Cheshire (indistinct) for the current proposals.

PAST PRESIDENT CHESHIRE: Thank you. Mr. President, executive board, past presidents, general membership, a brief before you of two proposals that have been submitted by Midwest Texas District back in January at the planning conference. These proposals were checked in accordance to procedures and protocols set by and established by our current constitution bylaws. Both were submitted on time. Both met the protocols that are established. Both were submitted for printing and distribution to all districts, along with posting on the website and in the magazine. Both were approved for ballot voting, and both are currently placed on ballot for Wednesday's business session.

At our meeting on 6/22, there were no new proposals submitted at our meeting, and this concludes my report on which to submit this for the record.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Thank you, Harvie. All right. At this point in time, we're going to allow the Midwest Texas District representative a few moments to explain the amendment as it's been written. I want to remind the audience this is an explanation only. It's not a venue for answering questions. If you would like to ask questions, Midwest Texas is here all week, and happy to answer your questions at that point in time. So, Midwest, you're up. We will allow seven minutes for this.

MIDWEST REP. DEATHERAGE: Mr. Chairman, thank you for

allowing this time to discuss this. And before we start, Midwest District submitted two bylaws proposals. Both deal with voting at the convention. At this time, we would respectfully request permission to withdraw our first proposal. That is the proposal that dealt with Saturday voting only.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: What proposal number is that? Number 1 or Number 2?

MIDWEST REP. DEATHERAGE: That would be Number 1, Mr. Chairman.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. At this time, we have a request to withdraw Proposal Number 1 by the Midwest District. I'm assuming that's correct?

MIDWEST REP. DEATHERAGE: Yes, sir.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Proposal Number 1 is withdrawn.

MIDWEST REP. DEATHERAGE: Thank you, sir. The other proposal we submitted is based on vision and history of this association. Our proposal deals with two elements: voting and expense. We feel that if you are a new state member of this association, you should have the opportunity to vote. Expense is the other thing that comes in. A lot of people do not have the financial resources or the flexibility in their jobs to stay until Wednesday to cast a vote. With that said, we are proposing that voting be conducted on Saturday during the hours of the trade show. How will that work? How many people in this room vote in their local county, state, and national elections? How do you do it? You're preregistered to vote. In our association, voting delegates are pre-credentialed. You go up to your polling place, present your voter ID card, they stamp it voted, give you a ballot, and you place that ballot in the ballot box or, nowadays, push a button on the electronic machine. That is the system we are proposing. Our proposal calls for a balloting place to be held at or near the trade show, during the hours of the trade show, to be manned by the sergeant-at-arms committee. Robert and I have visited at length with this. He says it's no problem.

The other issue is timing of convention. Should Saturday voting pass, we feel that it would be financially beneficial to the members that attend and to the association to shorten the conference by one day. Our proposal would allow the convention to end on -- begin

on Sunday, as it does now, and it would end on Tuesday. The problem that brings up in questions we've had: how would the nominations be conducted? Currently, if you seek state office, you declare you're nominated, and you must have a letter of endorsement from your district. Our proposal would change that letter of endorsement to a letter of nomination. It's very simple. You planning to seek office in this association, you submit your letter of nomination from the district and your intent to run, you're running. It calls for the president to form a credentialing committee of five past presidents. They would make sure you have the proper credentials to serve. That report will be due March 15. So the process would be simple. It would be easy. It would allow candidates to campaign as nominees, not candidates, and it would make voting more accessible. Currently, we're averaging about 200 votes cast on Wednesday. By my math, that's less than half of 1 percent of our membership, has the opportunity to vote. We think Saturday voting will increase (indistinct). It will increase conference attendance and will increase attendance at the trade show. The one thing that we are not proposing to change, we are not touching, is the voter credentialing process. To vote on Saturday, you would still have to pay the full conference registration fee. You would still have to submit the credential reports signed by your chief designating you as a credentialed voter. That would not change. The only thing that would change would be the nominating process and when the voting was conducted.

The other end of it: it would save us all some money and make it more financially attractive or available to attend this conference. Thank you, sir.

If you have any questions, please catch us at the back. We will be around all week.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: Okay. Thank you, Clayton, for that explanation. All right. At this time, I'll ask Secretary Brent Allen to come up with any announcements.

SECRETARY ALLEN: Okay. It was told to me that the cross that was at the memorial service will be at Longview Station Number 6, and that is at 2808 McCann. So if you want to go back and see that, you can.

The Presidents' Reception, we got that all taken care of, whether inside or outside. About the weather, I have a bus list here. It departs from the hotels at 5:30. It's approximately a 20-minute ride to Rowdy Creek. So Holiday Inn will have two buses, Courtyard will have one bus, Candlewood will have one bus. I guess this is La Quinta Staybridge. It will have one bus. The return bus will be at staggered exits. Each bus will drop off at all five motels. And Bus 1 and 2 will start at 8:00 p.m.; Bus 3 and 4 will be at 8:30; and then Bus 5, 1, and 2, at 9:00 p.m. It just says here on Bus 1 and 2 at 8:00 p.m. that both buses return for a later pickup. So if you have any questions, just see me and I'll tell you again.

Also, we have an engagement ring that was found. So if you have lost an engagement ring--and if you lost that engagement ring, you'll have a lot to explain--see the sergeant-at-arms. Is that it? All right. That's all I have. Oh, I'm sorry, one more. The Northeast is going to caucus back here in the west corner, after the meeting. And also want to remind you to have your appointments in pretty quick for the new president, when he gets appointment, and minutes -- or minutes from your meetings need to be turned in to so I can get them in the red book and get Gabi to put them in there. All right. Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. Thank you, Brent. All right. At this point in time, at the point of this meeting, we're going to offer a tribute to the president. Try to move this along. If you would like to offer a tribute to the president, start lining up over here and make our way across the stage right here.

(Tributes.)

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. We'll come back to order here. Folks, we ask Ben Kennedy to come up for our benediction.

CHAPLAIN KENNEDY: Pray with me, please.

Father, as we depart from here, be with us this evening and keep all safe from harm, deliver us back tomorrow for our assigned duties. We thank you for your love, in His name we pray. Amen.

VICE PRESIDENT SMITH: All right. We sand in recess until Wednesday.

(Business meeting adjourned.)

CLOSING BUSINESS SESSION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2019 - 8:00 A.M.

PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: Ladies and gentlemen, we'll now open the 143rd State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association Convention and Training Conference. Your presiding officer today will be 2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle.

VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: At this time, I call on chaplain Ben Kennedy for the invocation. I think some of you really need it after last night. (Laughter.)

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: Don't know if y'all have seen him this morning or not, but Patrick Hlavaty came strolling in here this morning. It's always good to see him back, and seems to be back in pretty good health. So, Patrick, it's good to have you with us today. Haven't heard anything on Cowboy or Rodney, but we need to keep them in our prayers. So if you would, bow with me, please.

Father, we're grateful to you again for the day you've blessed us with, the day to serve you, the day to serve this organization. We ask, Father, that what we do will be done in accordance to your will and to the best interest of all of our citizens. We ask now that you continue to be with Patrick and his health, that you be with Cowboy and Rodney, that they might be brought back to their full and complete health. We know there are others that need our prayers, and please know we're requesting your assistance with their healing. We thank you again for all you've done for us, for bringing us here, for the joy that we have with each other and this family. It's in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: I've been asked to announce if you speak to the floor, to the convention today, if you would, please speak clearly and a little louder than normal. If you turn your head from the mike, the court reporter's having a hard time hearing you. And I'll tell you, after having reviewed some of those red books in the past, it's real important that you speak clearly, where she can hear you. So if y'all would take care of that, I'd appreciate it. At this time, I'd like to recognize our next speaker, introduce him, Representative Chris Paddie. Chris Paddie was born in Center, Texas, and raised in Carthage. He graduated from Carthage High School and went on to graduate from Texas A & M University with a bachelor's degree in industrial distribution. After graduation, Chris moved to Houston, where he works selling safety equipment and industrial products. Chris worked with numerous businesses, ranging from small businesses to national corporations, to provide efficient and affordable solutions for construction projects. While in Houston, Chris married Brooke Hanszen, his high school sweetheart. Chris was first elected Texas House District 9 in November of 2012 and was reelected to a second term in November 2014.

VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Chris has earned the support of a wide range of groups including Texas Alliance for Life, Texas Medical Association, Texas Association of Manufacturers, Association of Texas Professional Educators, Texas Association of Realtors, the combined law enforcement agencies of Texas and Texas Parent PAC, amongst others. For the 86th legislative session, Chris was named as the chairman of the House Energy Resources Committee. He also served on the Licensing & Administrative Procedures and Redistricting committees. Chris also served as the vice chairman of the Sunset Committee. Last session, Chris was appointed to the State Affairs, Licensing & Administrative Procedures, and Calendars committees and the select committee on State and Federal Power and Regulation. Chris and Brooke have two sons: Christopher, 17; and Noah, 14. Chris and his family attend Immanuel Baptist Church in Marshall. I give you Chris.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: Thank you very much for that kind introduction. And good morning, everyone. You don't look too bad. I hear y'all had a good time last night, so you don't look too worse for wear this morning. (Laughter.)

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: It's good to be with you this morning. I appreciate the invitation to be here. As was mentioned, I live just next door. In fact, I represent the eastern portion of Longview, and live in Marshall with our sons, who actually just turned 18 and 15. And I know you're thinking: he doesn't look old enough to have a kid that old, and I appreciate it. (Laughter.)

But East Texas is home; so first, I'd be remiss, for those of you who are not East Texans, if I didn't welcome you to East Texas. We believe it's the greatest part of the state, of course. We're a little biased. Who traveled the farthest to get here, do you think?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Dalhart.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: Dalhart, oh, okay. That's a pretty good way.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Panhandle.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: Panhandle? That's a pretty good distance. Well, welcome to East Texas. We're glad to have you here. As you know, we just finished up a legislative session. It was my fourth term. And I'm happy to inform you this morning you're a little safer than you would otherwise be, because we're not in session. (Laughter.)

When we're in session, we can do more damage than you can imagine. Actually, you probably can imagine; you've seen it some in the past. But I just want to share a few things with you this morning. And I hope you, maybe, have brought some questions with you this morning, and I'd be happy to take those questions on any subject you may have. Obviously, you're here about your issues, and I do want to touch on those a little bit. Overall, we had a really good session.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: My fourth session's probably one of the best and most enjoyable sessions I've had, as far as coming out and feeling like we really accomplished a significant amount of good stuff. Now, we don't always get everything we want, as you well know; but I feel like we had a really good session. We came in with some pretty high priorities, as it related to school finance reform and property tax reform, being the top two; and I'm happy that we accomplished, in large part, those goals. You know, when we go down there, as a representative of rural Texas, which I'm proud of, we're always down there fighting over those types of issues. You know, so often, as we look at politics, particularly as we look up to D.C., we see the gridlock and the sheer partisan bickering and fighting that goes on, and I'm so thankful that we don't have as much of that here, particularly in the Texas House.

We work very well together, in a bipartisan fashion, and this session was a real good example of that. Most of our issues are not partisan. They're not Republican/Democrat. The lines are drawn based upon other factors. Primarily, in a lot of cases, it's urban versus rural, as far as regional issues, that seem to be the larger fights that we have, which makes for an interesting situation, many times, because when in session, depending on the issue, you could have who is considered to be the most conservative Republican and the most liberal Democrat lock arms, fighting on the same side of an issue, but that is because they're representing their districts and their districts were aligned on a particular issue. Now, they may disagree on eight out of ten issues, but there's a couple of issues where they are in lockstep and they fight together. I love that about what we do here in the Texas legislature, particularly in the Texas House. You don't see that on the national level. If you've got an R by your name and a D by your name, you can't even be seen together. That's just not something you're supposed to do, and that's ridiculous. I think the way we do it is the right way to do it because it leads to good-quality debate and, ultimately, good solutions, I believe, and good policy. So we had a good session, I thought. And so let me go ahead and tell you, if you don't know, that -- you know, I talk to folks all the time, and they're, like, "Well, you're just a part-time legislator; you're a state rep. You just work five months every other year, right? You're in session every other year." That is not true; I will tell you that. I tell folks this job will take as much time as you will give it. I could literally work on issues relative to the legislature every day, if I would allow it to take that much of my time, but I can't do that. Number one, because this prestigious job we have pays us \$600 a month; and so if you know my wife, that wouldn't even buy all the shoes she buys. (Laughter.)

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: And so that doesn't work. So my real business is I'm in the radio business. So we have a cluster of radio stations in Marshall, Henderson, and Carthage that we operate, so that's what I do for a real living, doing that. But the interim is a very important time. This is one of the messages I want to give

you this morning. I know this is an engaged group, aware of what's going on, and likely walks the halls of the capitol during session and talks to folks and advocates on issues that are important to you. But I can't stress to you enough the importance of the interim. You can't just show up when it's game time and be completely effective. Obviously, you need to do that and that is a big part of it, but a lot of the work is done in the interim. That's true for us, and I will tell you this morning, that's true for you. Because what we do, we get out of session--we've just been out a couple of weeks now--and I've already hit -- I represent six counties here in East Texas, and I've already hit every one of those with meetings, and I will continue. On a weekly basis, I'm in one of those counties probably a couple of different times a week, speaking to groups, working on issues, because as soon as we get out, it's not over; it's just time to prepare for the next one. And so we will be traveling around in our district, hearing from folks like yourself and others that serve in our communities, to hear what your concerns are to start to develop legislation for next time, to lay the groundwork for that. We will have interim hearings. As was mentioned, I chair House Energy Resources Committee, and so I'll have some things related to oil and gas that I'll be doing around the country -- not -- well, around the country a little bit too, but particularly around the state. Licensing & Administration will have some interim stuff as well. Redistricting. Every ten years, as you know, we have a new census and we have to do redistricting, where we redraw the lines for the State House, State Senate, and our U.S. Congressional seats; and based on the growth and our population, we have to make sure we distribute to the people to make sure that everyone -- that we represent an equal amount of folks. So that's going to be an interesting process. I'm privileged to serve and have been appointed to the Redistricting Committee, the only person from this region; so I feel like it's my goal to not only represent and protect East Texas' interests, but, frankly, to protect rural interests in general, because as the population grows, as many of you know that serve in rural communities, our areas aren't growing as fast as the urban and suburban areas. That's where the growth is. And so with that growth also means a growth in representation; and so every cycle, we lose a little more influence in the rural areas. I represent six counties right now. Without question, I'm going to have to go pick up some more folks in this next redistricting cycle. I'll probably represent seven counties instead of six. And that's a trend that's going to continue, going forward. And so we have to make sure that we're advocating and protecting the interests of rural Texas. And that's where, obviously, a lot of you come in as well. We need your help in doing that. We need to make sure your voice is being heard as it relates to the issues that are important to you and making sure that rural parts of the state are getting their fair share, whether it's education funding, transportation funding, whether it's making sure that services to those that are volunteering and doing the work that you do, that those things are being funded as they should be.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: I know you have a number of things that you were watching this session, and you had some victories in there, some things that got accomplished, and I know there were some that were some disappointments as well. I know one in particular that was vetoed by the Governor was, I know, disappointing. I saw his explanation. With all due respect to the Governor, I can't say I agree with his explanation of why he did that; but, again, that's one of those things where it's time to -- that's over, interim's here, we get right back to work educating folks, not only members but maybe the Governor and other leadership as well. Seems like you did a pretty good job in the legislature, because it passed pretty overwhelmingly, I want to say, in the House, because I had the privilege of voting for it twice, and I think it had 120-something votes, I believe, out of 150.

And so, obviously, the support is there. We just need to figure out how we get the Governor comfortable with that, and I'm looking forward to working with you on that issue as well. But the interim is so critical. Your homework here, in addition to others, I'm sure, you're going to have, is to go home and whoever it is that represents you, in the House, in the Senate, to make sure that you have a personal relationship with him, that they know you. When you walk in the capitol or they see you in the community, if they know your name, they recognize your face. You need to have that type of contact because you can have all the great representation and lobbyists in the world--and you do have a good one--but, you know -- and they can help educate us, as members, on the issue. They can make us understand what their issue is. But the only people -- and I always tell people this: the only people that can make us care about it are the people that voted for us, our constituents.

And so that's why it's important for you to have a personal relationship with your state rep, your state senator, back home. And so if you don't have that now, make that a goal over the next year, and certainly before we come into the next session. Make sure that you -- make time to visit with them, have lunch, put together a little meeting or reception or something like that and have a chance to visit with that person, make sure that they truly understand what you're concerned about and that you have a personal relationship to the point where you can pick up the phone or maybe, you know, send them a text, shoot them an email, or whatever, and they're going to know who you are and they're going to be responsive to that. That's important, because you're going to need to have that kind of contact with them.

I know you've got a lot of other business to do this morning, so I'm not going to keep you much longer. I would be happy to entertain any questions you might have. Anyone have any questions about anything that I mentioned or anything that I didn't mention, I'm more than happy to answer. Or are we all still waking up this morning? Anyone up front, you guys, anything y'all want me to touch on? Man, you guys are easy; I'll come back anytime. (Laughter.)

You just let me know. Enjoy the rest of your time. Again, those visiting from other places, enjoy your time here in East Texas. Thank you for what you do.

I certainly don't want to leave here without telling you sincerely how much we appreciate the service that you provide to our communities, and not only in everyday situations but in situations involving disasters--we've certainly seen some incredible examples of that--and you guys and gals are the first ones to step in the gap and make sure that folks are getting taken care of. And I just want to tell you personally how much I appreciate you and what you do for our communities; and if there's ever anything I can do for you, I hope that you'll please reach out to me. But enjoy the rest of your time here and the rest of your conference, and thank you for having me today. God bless you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: I just want to say real quick that Representative Paddie has been a great friend of this association, worked good with us and worked well with us and worked hard for us this year. And we certainly appreciate you coming here today.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: Thank you.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Representative Paddie, we have a little gift here for you, a plaque that says State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association, Friend of the Fire Service Award, presented to Representative Chris Paddie, June 26, 2019. We appreciate all your support and help. Thank you very much.

HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS PADDIE: Thank you very much. Appreciate you.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: At this time, we've been asked to move the elections up on the agenda a little bit, so I will need a motion from the floor to deviate from the agenda.

MR. HANSON: So moved.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: I have a motion from Tom Hanson. Do I have a second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Have a second. All those in favor, say aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: All those opposed, same sign. (No response.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Motion carries. At this time, I'll call on Secretary Brent Allen for the instructions.

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: Okay, everybody. All right, look at your ballots. My name was inadvertently left off the ballot, so you can put a little box down below Mike Richardson's name and put my name there and mark it if you want to. Also, look at the site selection for 2022, right there in between Beaumont and Houston, that should not be Corpus Christi; it should be Galveston.

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: Galveston. Correct that. So we have all the delegates up front. Everybody got a ballot? Nobody needs a ballot? Good deal. Good deal. We'll be working on the constitution and bylaw proposal amendment that requires -- remember, it requires two-thirds to pass, okay, two-thirds, majority vote. We'll be voting on a 4th vice president and a mascot. We will also -- remember that it takes 50 percent to go to whatever city we are. If we don't have more than 50 percent, then we will have a runoff. Let's see. Also, remember that each candidate that's out there, they are allowed to have a representative to follow Mr. Kennedy to the back to take care of votes and watch the vote count. So we ask that you put an X in each of the boxes for whoever you're going to vote for or what you're going to vote for. And with that, I would say that you can go ahead and mark your ballots at this time and then pass them to the center so that the Sergeant-at-Arms can collect them, center aisles.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What's your name?

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: Brent Allen, B-R-E-N-T A-L-L-E-N.
(Voting held.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Okay, let's hold it down a little bit, and let's get this taken care of. At this time, I call on TFA President Leslie Nixon, to recognize her board.

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: Are y'all ready to collect the ballots, everybody? Sergeant-at-Arms, collect them ballots. (Ballots collected.)

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: Everybody's got their ballots in? All right.

TFA PRESIDENT LESLIE NIXON: I'd like to introduce our board for this coming year. My name is Leslie Nixon. I'm the TFA President. 1st Vice President is Patti Jones; 2nd Vice President Melissa Thomson; 3rd Vice President, Ashlyn Anderson; 4th Vice President, Alice Salinas; Secretary, Donna Svatek; Treasurer, Kendra Charbula; Parliamentarian, Jerri Locknane; Historian, Penny Horelica; Chaplain, Mary Jane Cargile; Immediate Past President, Brandy Tidwell; and our Sweetheart is Keegan Nixon. (Applause.)

TFA PRESIDENT LESLIE NIXON: And this is our board for 2019-2020. Thank you, guys. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Brandy Tidwell, if you would, if you'd come up here for a second, please? You're much younger than me, so you get to come up here than me go down there. (Laughter.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Have a little gift for you in appreciation for all the hard work for your association and ours. We thank you for your years of service. Appreciate it very much.

TFA PAST PRESIDENT BRANDY TIDWELL: Thank you so much.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: At this time, I call on Michael Worrell and Thomas Randall, presentation from AT&T/FirstNet.

MR. BILLY FREEMAN: Neither one of those are coming up here.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Well, okay.

MR. BILLY FREEMAN: Good morning. So my name is Billy Freeman. Tom Randall is actually in the back, back there, and he's your Texas representative on the government side, FirstNet --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Pull that microphone up.

MR. BILLY FREEMAN: FirstNet, government side. Tom Randall's in the back back there. He's your Texas representative. My name is Billy Freeman. I am a retired Memphis firefighter, 28 years, and I represent the fire community for the FirstNet authority, which is the government side. So we Tennesseans, we love to come to Texas. So a couple of quick things, the government side, you know, I'm here to help you; you know, we're the government. (Laughter.)

MR. BILLY FREEMAN: Yeah, thanks. (Laughter.)

MR. BILLY FREEMAN: We will help firefighters--fire departments, agencies, emergency management, police, EMS--to help with their path down the data. That's our job. That's our job. We are your advocates to help with that. One of the biggest things we have going on right now is our roadmap. So I need to -- we need volunteers to help spend \$16 billion over the next 20 years. Can we do that? That's not a problem, right? Exactly. So what that means is that AT&T, they've got the contract for the FirstNet, and they're required to pay back into the authority, pay back to the government side, and that money has to -- we are an autonomous authority under the Department of Commerce, so that money has to go -- we take that money, and with your input--fire, police, EMS, emergency management--you decide where that money's going to go. And so we have developed a roadmap and over the next -- in about a month or so, we'll have the final draft -- the final roadmap out. We've been having regional -- we've been speaking for groups like this. We just had a hundred people come in to Phoenix to look at the roadmap, to help us finalize it. There are five domains in there that we're concentrating on, coverage and capacity, secure information exchange, those different pieces. I'm not going to get deep into this, but we -- that's what we want to do: we want to come and talk and get the input from the actual practitioner. I spent 28 years on the fire department, so it's boots on ground that need to be making the decisions. I have a vested interest in it. My son is a firefighter-paramedic in Memphis, and so I have a personal vested interest in this to make this process work. And so we get to spend that money back out into the public safety. It can cover the gamut of -- it could be more deployables, it could be application development. You know, that's being determined. Those -- that survey information goes to the board, which is on -- the FirstNet board, and it's decided which ones look the best.

MR. BILLY FREEMAN: Those of you that have been in that world before--and I'm not calling this a grant; this is not a grant program--but you've seen how that process works. And so over \$16 billion -- it's actually -- the number is 16 to 20 billion, depending on how it shakes out over those 20 years, now, 22 years. That's what AT&T has to pay back into the FirstNet authority. And so we are going to be asking associations like this, agencies, to dig down a little deeper and have conversation with you about this roadmap.

Tom and I will be in the back in the hallway at the break to talk about it, and hopefully -- we've had an incredible response over the past. We started this at the first of the year, building this roadmap for the next five years, and we've had an incredible response, because usually -- and I say it again: you usually don't get the -- to be able to talk to the boots on the ground to make these decisions, and those are the ones that need to be making the decisions because they're the ones out there doing it. So, anyway, I appreciate you having me here. Tom and I will be in the back after the break, be out in the hallway, if you have any questions. By the way, any questions? I have no problem with questions. Come on. No? Did that make sense to you? Does that make sense, what I'm talking about? Go, please.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there a standard list of apps that we can go to online or something like that?

MR. BILLY FREEMAN: So there is what we call the app catalog, and so -- that's on att.com. And that app catalog has apps on it that have been vetted, tested and vetted, through our process out in Boulder, Colorado, part of it, and they're the ones that test the app. And that's where those apps that -- those apps don't reside there, but those are the ones that we have shown to say, okay, they're safe, they're not collecting disparate data, that kind of piece. That work for you? Any other questions? Thank y'all. And I know y'all are ready to go home after five days, aren't you? Thanks a lot. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you. At this time, could I have a representative from the Northeast District, representative from the Longview Fire Department, John Schulze, and Kylie Maples, please come forward. Not all at once. (Those requested approach.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: The State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas expresses its gratitude to the Northeast Texas District for your contributions to the 143rd Annual SFFMA training conference and convention, June 26, 2019. Thank you very much, Jerry. We appreciate it. Y'all did an outstanding job. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: And I have one here, State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas expresses its gratitude to Longview Fire Department for your contributions to the 143rd Annual SFFMA training conference and convention, June 26, 2019, Longview, Texas. Thank you very much. Y'all did a bang-up job. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Kylie, there's a few little gifts from somebody.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's from the state association.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you. From the Association. We appreciate all you've done for us. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: John. Have a little something for the guy that caused a lot of this. (Laughter.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Look out there.

MR. JOHN SCHULZE: They look fine to me.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Okay. Congratulations. Thank you so much, John.

MR. JOHN SCHULZE: Certainly.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: We appreciate all y'all do for us every year, and we look forward to a continuing relationship with you.

MR. JOHN SCHULZE: Certainly. Thank you.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you a lot. At this time, I'll turn the mike over to Executive Director Chris Barron for his report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: Good morning, everyone. I'm Chris Barron. I'm the executive director for the state association. Just here to give our 2019 year-in-review report -- or, excuse me, 2018-2019. So as you all know, we went through a little bit of troubled waters, as I'm going to call it, over the last year, and it started off not ten minutes after leaving convention this time last year in Arlington, with Gabi and I going down the road and she tells me that she is going to resign from the organization to go spend time with her family in Prague and take her kids over there so that they can have a relationship with their grandparents. And that was not the news I wanted to hear, of course, going back after a great convention; but it is what it is. That's what happened. Now, unfortunately for Gabi, she got to Prague and, literally, as she touched down from the airplane landing, she got news her dad had just had a stroke; and so what was going to be a "let's spend time with grandparents and get to know the grandparents and spend time with her family" became a "let's take care of the parents" situation. So that was the beginning of what became a rough three, four, five, six months, it seems like. Then came -- as y'all know, when we were in Arlington, Kevin Creamer, our certification administrator, was feeling quite ill, thought he might have the flu or a cold or something to that effect. It wasn't shortly thereafter leaving conference last year, he ends up in the hospital for 20 days with a severe liver infection. Almost lost his life. Then he spent several weeks thereafter recovering, basically going through kidney dialysis, because his kidneys started to fail, and we are thankful that he is here today; but that also put us in somewhat of a panic mode and

stressed-out mode in the office because we're trying to figure out what Kevin does, because he does his job, he does it well, but he's only a one-stop-shop right now until we can get him some additional help, an administrative assistant dedicated to certification. It is what it is, right?

Next, we had the software rollout that we rolled out in the spring of last year, and it really didn't get going until the fall. We had numerous people call in, asking questions: software, software, software. "I do not understand the software." "Have you gone to the how-to videos?" "No, we haven't." "Okay. Well, start off there; then call us back." We called. "We looked at the how-to videos. We still don't understand." So Chief Richardson and myself and Kevin and Bill Stutler and Andy Dexter tried to figure out how we can make this training more receptive to those out in the field, and so we started target-marketing some demonstrations of the software out there in specific areas of the state of Texas. And what is interesting is that probably not 30 minutes into one of these presentations and trainings, like light bulbs went off: "Oh, I get it now," "This, actually, isn't so bad," "I understand how to put data in, get data out." So this was not an easy task for our association. We had been on the existing software over two decades. We had spent a lot of money on the existing software for customization and repairs and support, et cetera; but in moving to the new software, which is all online--it's unlimited support, it's unlimited upgrades, it's customizable--it was a major project for the association. And not only did you all have frustrations, you should have seen the frustrations of the staff inside the office. However, as with any major project -- anybody ever built a house and it just go 100 percent perfect? No. That's not what happens. Just with our software rollout, not everything went 100 percent perfect. But I am glad to say that, unlike our counterparts at a small state agency that regulates paid firefighters, we didn't roll out a software and have to redact it within, you know, 30 days. We actually rolled it out after we tested and tested and tested and tested, and we did not have to stop everything and actually redact it. So the rollout was something we moved forward with. So, as you can tell on the graphic up there, it was like pulling our hair out; we had so many things going out and going on at one point in time in the fall of last year, not only with the software rollout and the loss of Gabi going over to Prague, Kevin being in the hospital, and then we're backlogged on processing certifications, we're trying to roll out other membership database software so that we can roll out billing to you all and updates and renewals and updates to the certification program, we also had a little thing just on our radar called the legislative session. And although you'll hear from our lobbyist, Chief Richardson and I spent many hours at the capitol and working on legislative efforts in addition to what the lobbyist was working on. So that was also in our front radar scope, but we pushed through it. We also moved forward with the grant and applied for a grant last year; ended up writing a grant for -- the total was \$1.4 million -- that we were awarded.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: So next thing you know, we have a DHS grant that we were awarded, and we have to meet certain parameters of that grant so that they don't take the money back away from us. So the recruitment/retention of firefighters. We all know that is a challenge, not only in Texas but nationwide. When we continue to see the numbers of volunteer firefighters decreasing at a rate of about 10 percent per decade, that's a huge thing we need to be aware of and start combating. We have got to recruit more firefighters in our fire service. So we launched this effort; we launched the recruitment and retention campaign with billboards across Texas that were just recently rolled out, posters, banners, et cetera, which you'll hear from Greg Redden here shortly, about the details of the program; but that was also a major project we rolled out. Here's just an example of where those billboards are at across Texas. As you can see, they are spread all across Texas. We tried to focus on putting those billboards in the rural parts of the state; but, unfortunately, sometimes the rural parts of the state don't have the traffic nor the need for billboards. We also combated this program with radio ads, Pandora ads, developed a media toolkit that you all can use, and then an evaluation program that allows you to provide some feedback. I'm going to play for you the radio ad or Pandora ad that is running right now, so hold on with me one second. (Radio advertisement playing.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: So we have a couple of those playing. That's just one of them. There's another version of that that's also playing on Pandora spots, and we're currently talking to a media firm about getting that on radio across the state of Texas. So that should be coming, hopefully -- we have to do a little bit of a grant amendment to adjust some financial figures within the grant, but we hope that will soon be helping you all, in your department, in your local community, recruit firefighters. We've received a lot of local media coverage, and I want to play a little snippet of that, too, for you. And, hopefully, this shows up on the screen. (Video advertisement playing.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: I'm going to go ahead and stop there, because it goes on for a few minutes, as you can see; but I just wanted to show you an example of what type of media coverage is going on out there and that is benefiting you in your local community. We got called from an Abilene news station, and there are several others that our media team is working on. So I know up here in the Northeast Texas District, you all got called, and I think one of your local chiefs did an interview for recruitment and retention of firefighters. So please help us out when we make those calls to you and say, "Hey, can you do an interview with your local TV station," and it's going to be specifically on recruitment and retention of firefighters. So we'll make those calls to you; we'll ask you to help us out. It's much easier for you to talk directly with the news stations, and we can give you those speaking points.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: In addition to all the other stuff that I mentioned going on, we had a little, small event right after conference last year at Texas A & M College Station fire school, called our Legislative Day. We brought 30-plus legislators and staffers to fire school. We went over to the Riverside -- what used to be called the Riverside Campus, we allowed them to drive bulldozers, we put them on some fire demonstrations and props, and that was the highlight of their year. It's nice to see when we go into a state legislator's office and the staffers are like, "That was the coolest experience we've ever had. Thank you so much for putting us in the bunker gear and letting us fight fires." So to them, that makes their year and they really enjoy that, and they remember it. Internationally, we have done some stuff. We typically do an international training every January. This year, we decided to bypass that international training, but I wanted to show you some numbers here that some of our international folks have worked on, in addition to getting membership in the organization, but also training fellow firefighters across borders. So 2,204 hours, training hours, were provided by some of our international members; 573 people were trained, whether it was in Instructor I or fire-fighting techniques; 13 different countries were served by our international programs; and with partnerships that we've had, we've brought on 304 new international members in the organization. And if that weren't enough, we had another little, small event in March of this year, with our capitol event, our Emergency Day for first responders; and I want to recognize Debbie Keel, who is in the back. Debbie, if you don't mind raising your hand. Debbie is with AT&T; and without her and the sponsorship of AT&T, this event and this conference would not be as successful as it's been. So thank you, AT&T/FirstNet, for your sponsorship of our events. (Applause.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: We held our memorial program at the capitol in March. We had the luncheon for emergency first responders, legislators, and staff, and it was a very successful event this year. I was very pleased with the turnout, very pleased with how everything flowed very nicely at the capitol that day. We had several state legislators out there giving their regards to the families of the fallen firefighters, and that is always a memorable service. We also had sponsorships from SAFE-D, Texas Fire Chiefs Association, Texas Mutual Insurance Company, VFIS of Texas, and Texas Fire Marshals' Association, who also sponsored this Memorial Day luncheon. Did you all know that that one-day, three-hour event cost our association about \$17,000? Catfish, number one, is not cheap, anymore; and then, number two, the rental of those tents and chairs and tables for those three hours is quite expensive. But we feel that it's a benefit to the state legislators and the fact, you'll hear shortly, that we believe some of that stuff paid off for us. We also developed some partnerships with various organizations. The International Association of Fire Chiefs are offering a recruitment/retention certification course, and we held one of those training classes in Austin.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: Several of our members attended that training class, and they are still offering that training class, in which they actually pay for your travel and your training for free, to you; so there is no expense for you from them. We also partnered up with the Travis County Fire Marshal's office, there in Travis County, to develop this billboard outside of Austin area. That was for Fire Prevention Week. And so we had the huge digital billboard, in which our logo was on, along with the Travis County Fire Marshal's office logo; and just developing some of those partnerships is important for our growth and our sustainability. Member benefits. I'm going to quickly list some of those membership benefits. We continue to add membership benefits for you and your recruitment efforts and your fire department members. Items which could, hopefully, benefit you and your fire department members, whether it's discounts at hotels, discounts on Amazon, buying products through our Grainger contracts or buying ammunition to go out and fire your weapons, whatever it might be, we continue to offer those membership benefits and looking for new benefits all the time.

One new benefit that we secured with VFIS of Texas and WinStar Insurance, which will be taking place October 1, is cancer benefits and critical illness benefit program offering you discounted rates for these type of policies. As you all know, cancer is a huge thing in the fire service, and we want to do everything possible to try and combat that, whether it is deconning right at the fire scene or offering some type of policy to help you out if you are to be diagnosed with cancer, this particular benefit can assist your fire department with offering those policies to cover your members. Here's just a list of some of our member benefits. This year, as you all know, with our increased membership dues that went into effect in 2019, we do now offer a \$20,000 line of duty death benefit, we offer a \$10,000 accidental death and dismemberment benefit. This is an increase significantly in your membership benefits than they were before, and also a severe burn policy. So if you were to go out on a fire and get burned, we have a policy that covers you, as being a member of the association. And as you can see, some of the other member benefits listed there: monthly e-newsletters, print publications, discounted products at our store. We also offer the Fire Chiefs Academy free to you. All you have to do is send me an email, if want to attend this academy, and I will put you on the list. We are in year number 3 of a successful program. It is free to participants. All you have to do is get to Austin, the south side of Austin, and we will take care of the rest. And we have a great program this year. We've increased the amount of training to five weekends in 2019, so a successful program, so much so that we've had to add on another weekend to the program. That is also co-sponsored by VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual Insurance Company. As I said the other day, we couldn't do our programs without sponsorships and partnerships, and here's just a few key ones that continue to step up to the plate for our association, to help us out in the time of need, our sponsorships.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: And, AT&T, definitely need to add you to that list. Thank you. I want to talk a little bit about some extra efforts that go on behind the scenes that you may not know about or may not see. Don't know if you are aware, but in addition to the frustrations of just going through a major software development program switch, that accounts for a savings to the association of about \$150,000 to \$180,000 per year. That's about what we were spending over the last few years on that old software, and that's one of the reasons why we needed to switch. This was just draining our bank account, and it was still a broken system. Our sponsors bring in anywhere from \$25,000 to \$130,000 per year in various sponsorships. We applied for and received a property tax exemption last year from Travis County that resulted in a \$60,000 savings to the association. We applied for that SAFER grant, which equated to \$1.4 million to the association, in programs to benefit you and your fire department, as your fire department needs, and for recruitment and retention. And then, lastly, we have rented out some empty offices in our association office in Austin, which accounts for about \$16,000 being brought back to the association. So we're doing more than just, quote, raising dues. And some people think, oh, they raise dues because, you know, they needed pay increases or they needed a new widget or a new computer, whatever it might be. No, we're going out to those extra efforts and bringing programs to help the association financially. So we're out there looking for new grants, new programs, new sponsorships, so that -- we're trying not to put the burden on our membership. But I can tell you, in going to some of my state level association type of programs, we're not the only association that has been through rough times or going through rough times. Everybody seems to go through times where association memberships fluctuate; and whether it's for economy's sake or software's sake, or whatever it might be, it's just one of the challenges of running an organization. So here's an interesting ratio. We have six staff members who work for you all, which equates to about one staff for every 3,833 members across our association. That's quite an endeavor to take on sometimes, when the phones are ringing off the wall, emails are coming in, projects are due; but we do our best. And we appreciate your patience when you call in and you may not get the phone call on the Friday, as Chief Richardson mentioned. That one little project alone, in which we were able to shut off the phones on Friday, really helped the staff get caught up on processing memberships and certification applications. It's hard when we're trying to process our normal duties, and then the phone is ringing off the wall and you have to, basically, stop what you're doing, answer the phone, do any research needed or produce any documents for you. But we have since, here lately removed that feature on the Fridays because we're finally caught up; we're finally caught up. And I'm hoping it will stay that way for a little while.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: We do have a dedicated, hard-working staff, which I'll recognize here shortly, working for you, that have quite a bit of tenure with the organization; and our hope is that sometime this fall, we will be adding on an additional staff person to the mix, to help out with processing and administrative duties in the organization.

I want to quickly give you the National Volunteer Fire Council report, as I serve as the Texas director; and, then, Dallas Renfrew, if you're in here, is the alternate Texas director. Dallas, are you in here? There you are in the back. Thank you, Dallas.

So a few items of interest from the National Volunteer Fire Council and what's going on at the national level. First off, our chairman surprised us this fall, last fall, in stating that he was going to resign from the position, step down from the position, that it was too much to try to take on. He was traveling all over the United States, all over the world, honestly, representing the National Volunteer Fire Council, and it became too much for him. So he stepped down. In the spring, we have a new chairman that was elected; and Chief Quinn still represents the National Volunteer Fire Council as a co-chairman. Chief Quinn also regularly participates and instructs at the A & M fire school in July each year. So if you see somebody from Rhode Island out there, that's going to be Chief Quinn from the National Volunteer Fire Council.

The National Volunteer Fire Council has also set a goal of reaching 24,500 members, and they, finally, have reached that goal this year. They are a national-level organization, United States-wide, and their goal was to try and get 24,500 individual members, and they just recently achieved that.

Much of the NVFC's funding, believe it or not, actually comes from grants. It doesn't come from the dues, optional dues, that you pay to be an NVFC member, but much of their funding comes from federal grants. They rolled out that Make Me A Firefighter campaign, which we're trying to incorporate in our recruitment campaign, and they have numerous other campaigns they roll out, including the Share the Load program. So if you have firefighters in your organization that are having a tough time with PTSD or an incident and they get to the point they need to reach out and get some help, the Share the Load program by the National Volunteer Fire Council can help those firefighters out.

NVFC has also been involved with improving the grading process of the grants, the federal grants, that you all are eligible to receive. Past President Dallas Renfrew, the good news is that Dallas Renfrew was elected as the new 2nd Vice Chair of the National Volunteer Fire Council. So, Dallas, congratulations. He stepped out, of course, as I mentioned that, but Dallas was elected as the 2nd Vice Chair for National Volunteer Fire Council.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: I will also mention that, as we were rolling out the dues increase last year, NVFC was also rolling out a dues increase, and a 20 percent increase in their dues structure, and, like us, they were concerned about where their membership was going to fall, as far as renewals. And they are still wondering about that, because they did it, actually, kind of mid-year. So, like us, they were anxious to see what one year's effect is on membership increases are going to be and where our membership numbers fall out with that.

Lastly, I just want to point out our staff and the staff that are in here -- do I see any of our staff? I see one of our staff in the back. There are some staff over there. Stand up, if y'all will, please. This is our staff, Austin staff, working for you all, and there's our tenure -- (Applause.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: And we certainly thank you for what you do for us, and we're glad to serve you all. And thank you so much for your commitment to the organization, commitment to the fire service of Texas, and we are here for you. So please do not ever hesitate to contact the Austin office. We may not be able to pick up on the first ring or so, but we'll get you on the second ring or third ring.

Lastly, I want to mention a couple of things, because it was mentioned earlier, the ballots had a little mistake. I'm not trying to put the blame here on anybody, but we do contract with Gabi, who is seven hours ahead of us in Prague, and she was responsible for the programs and guidebook and the ballots and things of that nature. There is, as you, of course, know, there's a little bit of gap there. We've learned that from Longview. We will improve to make things better next year. The whole year started off kind of crazy, as you all know, beginning last year; but we're going to improve things. We're going to do some more quality checks in the future, and we'll make things better for you all. So please do not let small things like that -- think that, you know, the association's falling apart or anything of that nature. We're doing great, we're financially doing great, membership is doing great. Thank you all so much. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you, Chris. We appreciate all you and we -- we understand that you have the most undermanned, underpaid staff in the world, and we hope to be able to correct some of that here soon. At this time, I'd like to call on Greg Redden for his report on the Department of Homeland Security.

MR. GREG REDDEN: Good morning. I'm going to give you an update on what Chris just talked about, the SAFER grant and give you actual results and also, those of you who've attended one of my workshops have heard me talk about how you're going to help me spend and help the board spend \$1.4 million. So if we go through this, I'll kind of give you some information about what we have planned, what we've done already, and what we can do differently over the next three years to help you with recruitment/retention. My team was selected to manage the SAFER grant for the association, due to the experience.

MR. GREG REDDEN: As you can see up there on the board, 34 SAFER grants in 16 states. So my team is based out of Boise, Idaho, but that's what we do for a living. So we all manage. We manage the social media campaigns. We go out and do the workshops, like some of you have seen me do, and we'll talk about those here just in a second. So as the association grant manager, we're looking for ways to spend the SAFER funds on two simple concepts. One is, as Chris just talked about those public relation campaigns, is to educate the general public in Texas that you are volunteer and combination departments, volunteer firefighters, and you're not being paid for that service. So that's one of the first things we do. And then to educate the public on the need for more volunteer firefighters. So Chris showed you some of those public campaigns. You've heard me talk about it in the workshops. It's all very important to use those funds to make sure that we do that: educating the public and then marketing for more volunteer firefighters. So what's grant got in it? One of the things Chris touched on is we are going to use these funds -- if you look at the first couple of budget line items there: billboards, public relations, recruitment banners, posters, and fliers. We're going to move some of those funds around based on the needs that I pick up from you, what you've told me, in those workshops.

So first thing is, how many of you in the room have already attended one of the two-hour workshops? Not bad. Looks like about 25 percent. And I'll talk more about what we have in those plans for the future. We did conduct two of them here. And the feedback that you give me in those workshops, that will take these budget line items and move them around and make sure we can provide you with the tools and techniques in your local community, not just social media and billboards broadcast across the state, but what you need to recruit more volunteer firefighters in your community.

You can see, I said challenge you to spend 1.4 million; and the bottom line down there is we've already spent \$251,000 in six months. Not a bad start. And Chris talked about those billboards to do that. So the first year, those billboards and the placements were in April and May, 117 locations. Chris showed you that map with the locations. We tried to focus in areas where there were either 100 percent volunteer or combination departments. So we didn't have those billboards in downtown Dallas. We had them out in the rural parts of Texas, to make sure that we're getting to the public that you serve, in your communities. The message was designed by a team in Austin, and the Real Texans Wear Uniforms. And you can see, at the bottom there, what we're going after: that simple, relatable message to all Texans. It plays on Texas pride, and a call to action, a call to serve. The part that you will take place with and help me spend is the recruitment banners, posters, and fliers; and so right now, 101 departments that belong to the association--and some that don't belong, but we're trying to get back into the association--have actually ordered one of those kits.

MR. GREG REDDEN: And the recruitment kits, an eight-foot banner, a vinyl banner that you can put up anywhere in your jurisdiction, a hundred posters, and 200 fliers to use in your community. But this is the part where we really want feedback. If you attend one of those workshops or you send me an email and you say, "Okay, I don't need a hundred posters," or, "I don't need the banner, but I need 400 posters to put up in my community," or, "I need less posters and I want a public events display," anything you can think of that will help you locally, will make a difference, then we give you the right materials and the right techniques to go out there and use it. So in this case right now, we've shipped 44 kits.

Those are being produced by a team, Allstar Printing in Austin, and spent about a third of that budget so far; but that's one of the things Chris and I talked about yesterday, is moving those funds around based on your need. So raise your hand if you'll go to one of the workshops; don't be afraid to ask me. If you look at the way the grant was written -- place mats. You heard me talk about place mats in those workshops. A simple place mat with your message on there can make a big difference in a diner or restaurant in your community, there again, educating everybody who comes in about the need for volunteer firefighters.

And then everything we do, all the marketing we do, whether it be the billboards, the place mats, the public events displays, the banners, everybody gets driven to volunteerfirefighter.org, and then those applications get sent to every fire service leader in that county. It's instantaneous. Right now we've had -- actually, that's supposed to be 231. So I screwed that up when I put it in there yesterday, Chris. But 231 applications have come in so far, and those have been sent out to fire service leaders in the applicant's county, to make sure they can respond back to those people. So the commitment that we're asking of you is that when you do get that application from volunteerfirefighter.org, that you make the contact and follow up with it. It doesn't do any good to drive a bunch of applications to the different departments if they're not followed up on. So that's the commitment that I'm asking of you.

And then we track that--how many are women, how many are veterans, and how many are minorities--because in the FEMA grant that Chief Barron wrote, we have to report back to FEMA about those results; so you'll see us track that as we go along in the grant. The recruitment workshops. So these are two-hour workshops. You can see where we've conducted them so far, including the two that were here, and 176 attendees to date. And so my job, and my team is to conduct those throughout the state over the next couple of years and make sure that everybody in the state understands if you're in the fire service, that the association is doing something to help you with recruitment and retention. And so in those two-hour workshops, a lot of sharing, a lot of ideas.

MR. GREG REDDEN: You may look at some of the ideas and say, "That might not work in my community," but let's see what does work in your community so we can adjust the budget and the techniques and tools based on your need. As we move forward, you saw the 12 that we just did; and you can look at the bottom of my schedule at this time, and that schedule is -- that first week of September, we'll be in the northwest area of the state, in those locations, and then first week of October, we'll be down south. So each month, I'll schedule a week where we do five or six of those in a row and make sure that we get it to every location across the state. There again, send me an email or send Chris an email that says, "We're interested in conducting one of those two-hour workshops."

Communication. We've done lots to communicate as far as with you, and you'll see more and more information either through my team or through the association staff, and that is the same thing. We can keep spending these funds on social media and commercials and that kind of thing--and that works; don't get me wrong--but we really want you to raise your hand and say, "Okay, we need your help locally, and here's what I'd like to do," on a new campaign or a public event in your community that we can help you with.

So case studies. You'll see me show a lot of case studies, because we've done this now for 12 years in 16 states. And I hope to have some case studies, obviously, very soon in Texas; but this one you can see in Ohio. Small community in Ohio. The Ohio fire chiefs had a SAFER grant for four years; and in this case, the chief was frustrated because it'd gone from 39 volunteer firefighters over the last five years to 20. And as we all know, that 20, that could be people that are aging and not as active as they used to be, so we are facing a huge challenge here. And what they did is they spent 1200 bucks of the SAFER grant funds in Ohio on two banners, a hundred posters, and 500 handouts, and they had the volunteers go up and put up all of those posters throughout the community, and that's what it takes. We can send you all the great materials that you, possibly, request; but it really takes the legwork, for people in the local community to go out, your team to go out and put those up and let people know about the need for more volunteer firefighters. And so at the bottom line in that case, 18 new recruits in the next 12 months, after they put the effort out to go out and hit their community and educate their community. So that's what the SAFER grants are for: making sure that the community knows that you're 100 percent volunteer and making sure the community knows that you need more volunteers. That's our job. So what questions can I answer? Okay. It's greg@volunteerfirefighter.org. So any questions or any requests, be sure and send me an email. Thank y'all. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you, Greg. We have a little something for you before you leave. We have a gift here for you. We appreciate you for all you've done for us and thank you. We look forward to the continued relationship. Thank you very much.

MR. GREG REDDEN: Thank you. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: At this time, we'll have a legislative report, J. Pete Laney. You know, I've always been the kind of guy, I've always made the comment, many times, that I really believe if we'd take half the lawyers in the world and make plumbers out of them, we'll solve half the world's problems. That being the case, I'm sure glad they didn't make a plumber out of you, J. Pete. This guy's a great friend of ours. He's done more in this legislative session than any of the lobbyists we've ever had. I hope we continue this; we've got to continue this relationship at least one more session. So I appreciate it. Thank you.

MR. J. PETE LANEY: Yes, sir. Thank you. Thank all of y'all for letting me be here. Someone asked me last night if I was in the band. I could have been. I wasn't. Then I got asked, maybe, to auctioneer last night. I can do that as well. For those of y'all that I haven't met, my name's J. Pete Laney. I grew up in Hale Center, Texas, just about 35 miles north of Lubbock, on a farm. Went to Texas Tech University. Went back home and farmed for a few years and then ended up at law school in Waco, and thought I'd go home and be a small town lawyer and farmer, and ended up getting a job in Austin, doing litigation. And then back in 2009, I started doing some governmental affairs work, and I've been doing that ever since, you know, of course, represent you guys, and I do a lot of ag and rural stuff, water, and different things. Really, I'm going to echo what Representative Paddie said on a lot of this stuff because it's so important; but first, I want to thank this board and T-Flag and special thanks to Chief Richardson and Chief Barron. And I apologize to Mrs. Richardson because I think we talked more than y'all did. I know my wife thinks you and I spent more time together than I did with her in the last six months. But these two guys were instructing; and anytime I needed anything, anytime of the night, texting middle of the night, early in the morning, you know, Chris getting me one-pagers with--you know, we had the delay; some of that stuff came from Prague as well--but getting one-pagers and stuff during session, that we needed on the fly, you know. And any of y'all that have been around the legislative session, it's a roller coaster and everything can be running on the tracks, and 15 minutes later, it's not. So these guys really stepped up. I know there were several instances when Chief Richardson would come down, and Chris as well, and come and testify at hearings, and he'd say, "Okay, well, I'm going back home," and I'm like, "Nope, nope, you're not. We've got six more meetings, we got lunch with this senator, we got to go meet with this rep," and they were troopers on that and it certainly helped.

We'll talk specifically about the session. You know, there were some main priorities that the association had during the beginning of the session. One of them was working on a loophole in a workers' compensation bill, allowing for the benefits of the surviving spouse to continue if that spouse remarries.

MR. J. PETE LANEY: That was something that needed to be fixed from the session before. We passed that bill, overwhelming support, signed by the Governor. Also, we helped support the move of TDM from DPS over to that school. I can't remember what it's called. (Laughter.)

MR. J. PETE LANEY: I really tried to stick an amendment in there to move them to Texas Tech, but they caught it. (Laughter.)

MR. J. PETE LANEY: The inspection bill. As you know, a big problem has been, in recent years, with things going -- not inspected out in the rural areas, especially in some of the suburban counties -- or suburban cities. We worked on that issue. Many of y'all know, one of our champions of this association of volunteer firefighters is Chairman Drew Springer from Muenster, who's a volunteer firefighter. You can't put a price on having an advocate that's actually an elected official, that's actually run into a burning building, like all of you have. And so he was instrumental in working on that bill and for several sessions and at the commission, but we did get some legislation through this session. We can talk for hours about exactly how many times that died and came back to life and different iterations of it; but going forward, this association will be allowed to train inspectors to be Inspector Is, and, hopefully, that will give the ability for more things in these areas to go inspect, which is important, of course, for life and safety.

The 2604 grants that are so important to all of your departments and this association, you know, really two things here: one, make sure that nobody robs any money out of it and that the funding doesn't get decreased; but also, we worked as hard as we could on trying to get money increased. We didn't get an increase; but what we were able to do, in working with Ken Keene, who is a state representative from up around Canadian, is now there is a -- I call it a subcategory, I guess, for lack of a better term. When you are responding to the declared disaster and, you know, you have damage to your trucks or equipment, before, you'd have to go ask for a new truck and sit in line, which we know there's a \$200 million backlog on the requests on the 2604 grants. So what Representative Keene wanted to do--and we worked with him on it--is try to figure out a category in there where -- when all his people up there were fighting Panhandle wildfires and needed certain things, like apparatus and different things -- or extractors and different things. So we worked with him, and I think he worked with the forest service on changing the rules a little bit, where those were categorized differently; but also under the legislation House Bill 3070, created the subcategory where you can make those requests for grants, like if you burned up a transmission or, you know, different things that you needed, where you didn't need a completely new truck, but you're responding to a declared disaster and you needed that truck back in service when you went back home, to help apply for those grants so you wouldn't have to stand at the back of the line behind the \$200 million backlog.

MR. J. PETE LANEY: Of course, going forward, we'll try to increase that funding, which the funding comes from a dedicated account, and that the legislature uses it during the their bookkeeping, at the end of the session, to balance the budgets. There's several of those accounts like that, where they leave money sitting in those accounts and they use it to balance the budget.

Some other things that came up during session, that we worked on, also, you know, to try to defeat one of them. We worked with AT&T on an issue where a representative had a bill to throttle back -- requiring cell phone providers to throttle back internet access during -- or to not allow them to do that during disasters, which, it was explained to us, that if they weren't allowed to do that, then that would keep the -- doing that allowed for first responders to still remain -- have to have priority, and so that was important to us, and so we helped defeat that bill. The other one that we worked on a lot was the expansion of fireworks, you know. The bill went from selling year-round to selling on certain different holidays and stuff; and so county judges and all the fire service across the state opposed those bills.

The one that Representative Paddie mentioned, the one that the Governor ended up at the end of the day not likely, was the job protections bill; and some of y'all that were around know that a similar thing happened back in 2007 with Governor Perry. What the bill did was allow for people to go respond to the declared disasters by their mayor, county judge, governor, the president, and not have the fear of losing their job. I have never explained the bill to anybody that they didn't end up liking the bill after I explained it to them. That includes the Governor, staff, all session long. Their response to Representative Tracy King, who carried the bill from Uvalde, and Senator Perry from Lubbock, that carried it in the Senate, was that "It's a really, really great bill. We just don't like that it creates a cause of action," which means you go to court to enforce it. You know, one statement that I also heard from one of the staff members was: "We don't like it, really, because it's telling businesses what to do." Well, that's exactly what we're doing. So we'll continue to work on that. I think there's some ways that we can maybe tweak it and get the Governor to buy in on that, but I think that's an important bill going forward, to try to get something that helps with recruiting and retention and having people willing and able to respond to declared disasters.

I want to echo the part about what Representative Paddie said about getting involved during the interim. I use this example a lot when I'm talking, and some of y'all may have heard it, but -- so in the Texas House of Representatives, in Texas, 150 of them, you've got more state representatives from Harris County, which is Houston, than you do all west of I-35, which I know a lot of you are from. And so when you start talking about things that affect rural and suburban volunteer fire departments, combination departments, there's not that kind of representation left in the legislature anymore.

MR. J. PETE LANEY: And with redistricting coming up, that's even more important. You know, we're lucky to have people like Representative or Chairman Paddie, who do represent a large area. And I want to mention some other names of some champions, and this is not an exhaustive list or a complete list, just ones that really helped us. So if they're from your area, I want you, when you see them at the coffee shop or a kids' sporting event or something, or a town hall meeting, I want you to really thank them for their support. Of course, Drew Springer from the Muenster area. He's got a very large district, and he continues to be our strongest advocate at the capitol. Tracy Keene from Uvalde. Man, what a wonderful guy. He called me right after the Governor's office called him and told him that they were going to veto the bill; and he said, "Before I tell you this, I'm just going to tell you, I'm ready to file it again." So he's willing to step up and do it again next session. Senator Charles Perry from Lubbock, who carried the bill in the Senate, great. Represents a big, big area out there. Kyle Kacal from College Station; Four Price from Amarillo; Senator Lois Kolkhorst from the Brenham area; and a new senator, Senator Pat Fallon, who has Wichita Falls all the way down to Stephenville and south of there. And Chief Richardson and I met with him. He came off the senate floor one day to meet with us, and he said, "Man, I want to be y'all's champion. Bring me your priorities," and so I think he's probably somebody that's going to be in the Senate for a long time. He replaced Senator Estes, that probably many of y'all knew, that had that for a long time. Going forward, and this is the part that Chairman Paddie talked about. One, I have on my notes in here that says, you know, barbecues. You know, anytime you guys have fundraisers or anything you have at your local departments, call me. One, because I like barbecue. (Laughter.)

MR. J. PETE LANEY: A lot. And, two, invite your local representatives. And when I say call me, is if you don't know them or you don't know how to get ahold of them, I can do that. That's why y'all have me. I can open any door that y'all need, in state government; but y'all are the ones that are going to have to walk through it. As Representative Paddie said, is they, hopefully, trust me and listen to me and I can educate them and advocate for them, but I can't vote for them, you know? So you guys are the ones that can do it, so that's the most important thing. And with redistricting coming up, it's important; but another thing that people don't talk about a lot is there's no more straight-ticket voting in Texas. This next election, you're going to have to go down, and you're going to have to vote for the person. What does that mean for you guys? One, they're going to want everybody to get to know their name, and they're going to want to make sure they have a relationship that they can count on, because they know they can't just hide behind an R or a D and hope that everybody, you know, checks one box.

MR. J. PETE LANEY: And so if you're having a fundraiser or anything at your station, you know -- I mean, say there's 40 people there, say there's 150, say there's 300 people, you invite that person. Well, that's 300 to 900 votes right there that they can get, and they didn't have to go all across the county and they get their name ID out. So I promise you, they will be ready, willing, and able to come to those meetings and I think it's important, and it allows you to have that relationship with them. There's no other association that I know of in this state that is as active or as big as y'all in terms of the number of members, other than, perhaps, the realtors. Difference is, realtors have a PAC that they spend probably a few million dollars out of each election cycle, sponsoring events down at the capitol all the time; but what you have is you're spread out across the state and on the ground and you're having these meetings and you've got fence lines and driveways and front yards that you can put up yard signs for these guys, and that's more important, a lot of times, and being able to come out to these events and meet people, is way more important than sending them a check.

There's a common misconception in politics, is that money buys you votes. It doesn't. You know, a small PAC check here or there, a donation, gets you in front of the people, it gets you to be able to talk to those people and maybe get some time with them; but there's a lot of other ways to do that, and one is by having these events, one is inviting them to everything that you have, one is walking up to them at the local cafe and buying them a cup of coffee or, if they have a town hall meeting, go, and thank them and let them know what your priorities are. So, hopefully, going forward, you know, if you take away anything from what Representative Paddie said or what I said, you know, that's one of, I think, probably the most important things.

I'm going to stop it there because I know everybody's ready to get done today and get back home, but I'm going to answer any questions that you guys have. And if y'all ask me any, I'm going to think I did a horrible job because y'all didn't ask anybody else any questions, but... (Laughter.)

MR. J. PETE LANEY: No, but really, any questions, I'm happy to answer them. I appreciate y'all putting your confidence in me and, like I said, I had a wonderful time learning. There was a learning curve, but, you know, I'm getting there. Yes, sir?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That bill, that disaster bill where you kept your job and everything?

MR. J. PETE LANEY: Uh-huh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did you have any inkling that the Governor was going to veto it?

MR. J. PETE LANEY: No.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Did he go in saying, pretty much, he was supporting it?

MR. J. PETE LANEY: Well, one thing about this governor is he doesn't -- unless it's one of his major state priorities, he doesn't say. And one of the biggest criticisms of this governor, for good and for bad, is -- you know, he's a lawyer by trade and he was a judge for a long time, before he was Attorney General, and people criticize him a lot because, whether it's staff or him--and I'm a firm believer everything comes from the top down--but they don't -- it's always up to him, at the end of the day; and he has, what I think, is a bad trait of waiting till the end to kind of look at everything and then make a decision. Well, then, a lot of times, it's too late. I'll give you an example. He vetoed about 60 bills, I think, this session. One of them dealt with the Bowie knife and naming the Bowie knife the official knife of Texas. Well, he vetoed the bill; and in his veto statement, he stated that there were some inaccuracies in the historical references in the legislation. I mean, really? You know? But he didn't do that until after the session was over, and they didn't have time to go back and fix it and, you know -- I don't remember exactly what the mistake was; but I'm pretty sure a bill like that, that's not very controversial, that could have been considered a technical correction, and had they said that before the end of session, they could have done it.

And I can go through details about how our bill -- we actually got a call from the Governor's office before session, Chris did, about this very issue, about the jobs issue; and so we took that opportunity to go over there and meet with his staff before session to talk about that and all of our other priorities, including increasing 2604 money. They say, "Great." And so I talked to that same staffer throughout the process, would run into him in the capitol, would talk to him: "It's passed the House," "Here's what we're putting out," "Here's our one-pager," "Here's our one-pager," and the day before the hearing in the Senate, that staff person was there. And he's a pretty high-up policy person in the Governor's office. He looks at me and he says, "You know what, I was looking at that bill a couple of days ago, and I'm not even assigned that bill. You need to call this other person," and we are well -- we're in May, or almost May. So called that person, that staff person. He definitely said he had a problem with it, and his big problem was we were telling businesses what to do. And I said, "Well, we can't fix that because that's exactly what we're doing." A couple of his statements were, "Well, you know, we're afraid that that's going to keep people from getting jobs. If you show up and you say on your application you're a volunteer fireman, nobody's going to hire you." I said, "That's not the case." "Well, instead of having legislation," he said, "we should just publicly shame those businesses that don't allow people to leave and go to disasters." Kind of see what we're up against with this staff person? And also, "Well, if they don't get hired at that place, they should just go down the street and have another one."

MR. J. PETE LANEY: I said, "I don't know when the last time you got out of Austin was, but there's not a lot of jobs in some of these places." And so, anyway -- we were assured, though, that his say was not the final say and by several high-ranking people in the Governor's office. But, again, at the end of the day, it is up to the Governor, and their statement was, "While there are some really, really good things in that bill that we really, really like, we don't like the fact that it creates a cause of action, to go to court." So I think there was some progress with the bill. We only really had only one group oppose the bill. In the past, several groups had opposed the bill. We were able to keep Texans for Lawsuit Reform off of it. NFIB did not oppose it. We put some stuff in there, some things for employers that we thought were helpful. The only entity that opposed it was the Texas Association of Businesses, and they didn't even testify against it; they just dropped a card opposing it, at a committee hearing. But there's a way, I think; but the Governor is going to have to sign off on it. And there's a little tweak that I think we can do that maybe gets him there, but....

But other than that and -- you know, I know you can't win them all, but that kind of makes me mad this session; I wanted it at 100 percent. But other than that, I mean, I thought we had a really, really great session this session. Thank you to all of y'all. I know some calls to action went out during session; and, I mean, I'm telling you -- one thing that Chief Richardson worked really hard on was getting the information, the number of volunteers in the different districts of the representatives and senators, and we sat down in particular with Senator Fallon that day, and Chief Richardson told him, he said, "Well, well, you have about 3300 volunteer firefighters in your district," and his eyes got about this big and you could tell he was kind of, like, hmmm; and Chief Richardson set out the spreadsheet and showed him, you know, where they were all from, and that's when he was like, "Well, I want to be your champion." (Laughter.)

MR. J. PETE LANEY: And so, you know, I equate that -- and especially after I told him, I said, "3300. I equate that to about 15,000 or 20,000 votes." So, certainly, that helped a lot. And I appreciate you for doing that and getting that together. But I think you're on the right path and -- you know, most of the time, you're playing defense at the legislature. I was going to give you some statistics right quick, just so you know. 4,765 House bills were filed this session. Of that, 969 passed. And a lot of those, you got to remember, are creation of MUDs and recognitions and things like that that are not controversial. 2,559 Senate bills, 460 passed. So, you know, you've got less than a 20 percent chance of even passing a piece of legislation. The process is just not -- it's designed to not pass legislation. So to pass all of those bills and the ones we supported and the ones that were our main priorities, with the exception of the jobs bill, it was a very, very successful session. Thank y'all. Any other questions? (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: We want to thank you for all of your hard work and leadership this year. I sure hope you hang around for a couple of more years, anyway.

MR. J. PETE LANEY: I'll be happy to, thank you.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: All right. Thank you so much. At this time, I call on Danny Hurt for credentials report.

MR. DANNY HURT: On the 2019 credentials report, we had nine of our elected officials present, we had 17 of 26 past presidents, 212 delegates registered, 56 spouses, 37 TFA members, 43 children, 62 nonvoting members. This includes 13 first-timers. Exhibit representatives was 125; vendors was 43. Give us a grand total of 541 people attend the convention. We had 699 last year, 541 this year. We're down 158. The Credentials Committee asks the secretary-treasurer to enter this into the official records for this convention. Thank you.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you, Danny. At this time, I'll call on Chairman Brian Scheffer for Certification Board report.

CHAIRMAN BRIAN SCHEFFER: Thank you. Before we get started, I want to recognize our Certification Board. These folks that serve on this board are representing you, and they're trying to bring you the best program possible. The certification, y'all know, is the heart and soul of what we do, and I'd like to recognize them. So anybody on the board, please stand up. (Applause.)

CHAIRMAN BRIAN SCHEFFER: Stay standing. If y'all have a problem or an issue, call these folks first. That's why I made them stand up. No. Kevin is one person. I hope you know who your zone representative is, if they come to your district meetings. If you don't know who your zone representative is, get on the internet and look it up. These folks here can fix a lot of your problems real easy, by a phone call. They can answer your questions. So please do that. Use them. They're there for you. They represent you. But be nice. We've got broad shoulders, we know, but that's y'all's board. So thank y'all, gentlemen. Also, this past year, after convention last year and fire school, we had an election. Gary Williams stepped down. He says he's ready to hit the high life and stepped down as chairman, and I was elected as chairman. But we did recognize Gary last year; but, Gary, would you please stand up. He served as our chairman for the past few years. Thank you, Mr. Gary. (Applause.)

CHAIRMAN BRIAN SCHEFFER: So we met Friday. Four master applications were approved. We did some other business. One thing I want to make sure, and Chris hit on it good: GrowthZone is not that bad. Okay? Those guys that were standing up, your zone representatives, call them. I taught a 50-year-veteran on the telephone how to use GrowthZone, and he said, "Brian, this ain't that bad." It's not that bad.

CHAIRMAN BRIAN SCHEFFER: Call your zone representative. Have them come out to you. The videos, how-to videos, use those PowerPoints that Bill and Andy made. It'll walk you right through it. It's not that bad. So your zone representatives will help you with that.

The other thing we're working on is NFPA 72 came out on a hazmat; so in order for us to maintain our reciprocity with the commission, we're going to, probably, update those objectives by the end of this year; probably go into effect the first of the year. We've got to stay in line with NFPA, so we're working on that. The other thing that we talked about in January was with the Industrial Board creating an industrial certification program. I'm happy to say that's moving pretty good; and so, hopefully, we'll have something out to y'all by July, at fire school. For you folks that have industrial members, they're working on even a crosswalk between the municipal and industrial. So, hopefully, if you got folks down there in your organization and want to be in your area, your department, we'll have an avenue for certification for them also.

One other thing we did in January--and I hope this word got out--no more progress reports. Everybody's stressed out, right? January 25th, you wanting to submit that button. Well, no more. As long as you're participating in the certification program and you're applying for certifications and you're putting data into the system, you're participating. So don't stress out on January 28th no more. That's a good thing for us.

And the last thing I want to go over is that, you know, when we're doing the testing, TEEEX is administering the testing, if you apply for your certification and you send the forms to the state office, go online, under Testing, and you can actually sign yourself up for a written test. You don't have to call. Do it yourself. Your coordinator doesn't even have to do it; you can do it. You just need to go online to the website and Certification and Testing and find where you want to go and you register yourself. That's one less thing that we have to -- like he said, Kevin's got 20,000 people he's dealing with by himself.

So, first and foremost, check with your zone representative. And there's some things you can do on your own. Check the website. If you've got any questions or problems, if you don't know your zone representative, my contact's on here. Throw it at me; we'll get 'er done. Okay? So on behalf of the Certification Board, we thank y'all, and we look forward to serving y'all. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you. At this time, we're going to take about a ten-minute nature break. So be back in about ten minutes. Thank you. (Break taken.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Okay. At this time, I'll call on Chairman Robert Kleen for the Sergeant-at-Arms report.

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: All right. I'm Robert Kleen, chairman of the Sergeant-At-Arms. We had a real good convention so far.

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: I got probably the best bunch of young men and ladies that you're going to find anywhere, that do an excellent job of seeing to it that things move smoothly at conventions; and I'm going to ask that they come down here and line up and I'm going to introduce them all to you. I just want to say that during the convention, these are the hardest-working group you'll find. And I've been chairman for the last 30 years; and I'll guarantee you, you can't find, over that period of time, any better group than what are here. They are the best. And I've got a surprise this year. I get to introduce Anthony Cargile, because he's actually here for this. (Laughter.)

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: They got the voting finished a little earlier than they do sometimes, and so I'm going to turn out here just a little bit, where I can actually see which ones I'm introducing. And I just want to tell you, there's not that finer group of people than these right here. And you'll see at the lead here, Matt Cornell, who is one of my best leaders. Tommy Sanchez, is about the second best. (Laughter.)

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: Anthony lists at the far end. But we have Matt Cornell, Tommy Sanchez, Steve Heim, Jake Gomez, Rick Cearley, Sarah Hargrove, Daniel Hernandez, Melissa Sanchez, Jim Cargile, and Anthony Cargile. And, ladies and gentlemen, I want to tell you, those are the best you will find anywhere. And I have enjoyed working with them so much this year. They've done so much for me, because I can't do everything I need to. But I want y'all to recognize them. (Applause.)

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: And I have a little thing here, I think -- Mr. Perry, will you step up here? I don't know how he got his hands on it, but he did. He wants to say a few words.

PAST PRESIDENT HENRY PERRY: I don't know a vice president yet that has not lost the box, so we couldn't let that tradition fall. I did get the box; and, Donny, if you will, I'll bring it around to you. (Applause.)

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: And, Donny, if you'll put a twenty-dollar bill for the (indistinct) MDA, and make sure you get it.

4th VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: I appreciate it.

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: All right. I think everything is kind of in line, and I've got the report to hand to our secretary. And I just want to say, I think it's been a good convention. It's had its ups, its downs, but it has worked. And I appreciate all of you being here, because, ladies and gentlemen, you are the ones that make fire service in Texas what it is, because y'all come and represent your towns, your departments, and you are the people that see to it that -- you go back home, hopefully you share everything you learned here, and let's just keep going forward. Thank you. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: We have a little something here for you for your many years of service to us. You are appreciated, and we thank you very, very much.

CHAIRMAN ROBERT KLEEN: Thank you so much. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Okay. At this time, Director Barron, I think you have for us report of the photo contest winners?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: Good afternoon. Chris Barron. If they are here, please come and get your photo contest awards. Javier Garcia, Second Place, Fire-Related Acts. If he is here, great; if not, someone from his district, please come by. That was Javier Garcia. Second Place, also, Education in Public Safety from Alvin Volunteer Fire Department, Clemencia Pittman. (Applause.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: I guess some folks have already picked up their awards because there's some Third Place awards missing, or we just didn't have enough of the submissions this year. Rex decided to take the award on behalf of Clemencia. (Laughter.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: First Place, Education and Public Safety from Pharr Fire Department, Eloy Salazar. (Applause.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHRIS BARRON: And, then, this is a familiar name, lastly, SFFMA Best in Show, from Pleasanton Volunteer Fire Department, Javier Garcia. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Okay, now what we came for. I turn the mic over to Secretary Allen for the election results.

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: All right. We're going to start at the Executive Board and work our way down. Tim Smith, 159; Richard Van Winkle, 160; Chuck Richardson, 158; Donny Boggs, 161; F. Jim White, 160; Ben Kennedy, 156; Mike Richardson, 160; Brent Allen, 153. 4th Vice President candidates: Curtis Brown, 96; Tom Jones, 73. There's your 4th Vice President, Curtis Brown. Mascot: Casey Johnston, 55; Landon Flisowski, 112. He will be our mascot. (Applause.)

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: 2019 constitution and by-law proposal did not meet the two-thirds, so it has failed. 2022 site selection: Beaumont, 105; Galveston, 53; and Houston, eight. So we'll be going to Beaumont 2022.

CHAPLAIN BEN KENNEDY: Mr. Secretary, I would like to move that the ballots be destroyed.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: All those in favor, say aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: All right. And that is the report for the delegates.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Thank you. Congratulations. Now I call on Past President Kyle Stephens for the elevation of officers.

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Thank you. First thing we're going to do is the passing of the badges. And, Mike, when you pass yours off, I need you and Harvie to step down here and sign that. If y'all haven't taken a look at the Past Presidents' plaque over here--it's disassembled right now so he can sign it--we had to build a new one a couple of years ago because we run out of room for the signing of the names; and it's too large to carry around now, so it stays at the state office. And the problem we've had, even with the old one, was getting the signature on there; and there's several signatures on there that aren't actual, true signatures. So with that being said, we started the tradition last year of immediately signing that so that we have that original signature on that plaque. So we want to make sure that you get it done, and they can put it back together. So if you would....

PAST PRESIDENT HARVIE CHESHIRE: You know, man, it has been a -- at times, it's been a blur; other times, it's been a strain. But, as I like to tell everybody, you know, sometimes we may be a little bit dysfunctional, but we put the "fun" in dysfunctional. But, Mike, I tell you what, it's been a pleasurable ride. I appreciate you so much. I can't tell you how much I appreciate you. And I appreciate being able to hand you the immediate past president's badge. Just want to let you know how much I love you, brother.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: Love you, too.

PAST PRESIDENT HARVIE CHESHIRE: All right.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: Thank you. (Applause.)

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: See if I can get this done. I only have eight fingers. (Laughter.)

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: All right, Tim, you know, when we started this ride, we ran just like everybody up here; and I'm sure Curtis and Tom today, we became very close friends during that time period. You don't become opponents; you know, you become co-runners. Anyway, when I first got on the board, you know, I felt a little bit of weight, when that 4th Vice President was put on my chest and each successive badge weighed a little bit more and this thing is very heavy right now. So I know Tim has the broad shoulders and the ability and the passion and the desire for this association, and he's going to carry this thing exceptionally well. And, Tim, very proud of you, and it's great to see my friend step up here and take leadership. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: The badge is heavy. Thank you, Mike. I appreciate it. Well, Richard, here we are. This feels good handing the badges down. It's still nothing like handing the box. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: There's no other feeling in the world than getting rid of the box, I'll tell ya that, the right way, not the way that --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Or getting it back.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Yeah, getting it back's even better. You know, as we've come up through the chairs, I've definitely had folks on each side of me that was so knowledgeable about the fire service, about business, about life, that I leaned on them either way. I've been fortunate in that fact, and I'm still fortunate in that fact. I've got them on both sides of me, and that's what really helps. And, as you see down the line, we have a great group of gentlemen up here that will take this organization into the future. So, Richard, I pass this badge on to you with great honor. So thank you and good luck. (Applause.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Chuck, I now pass to you the badge of 2nd Vice President. A little more weight than the one you were carrying; your party time at convention is over. (Laughter.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Next year, you go to work. Only organization I have ever been a part of, the first year you come on, you get the Memorial Service; the second year, you don't do anything. I guess we decided you needed that rest. (Laughter.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Now I know you're ready for the job. I look forward to your leadership. Thank you so very much.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK RICHARDSON: All right, Donny, you're fixing to get rid of the box.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: You got that right. (Laughter.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK RICHARDSON: And this is why -- 3rd Vice President doesn't have any responsibilities, so that's why I was so damned good at it. But I'm going to pass this to you and I'm going to tell you, really, 3rd Vice President, that's where you really start learning, because you know what the 4th, what they went through, and you get to see what everybody else is going through. So wear it with pride, and I know you'll do us a good job. (Applause.)

3rd VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: Thank you, Chuck. You know, when I went on this run, I had no, really, idea what I was getting into, but I found out real quick. And I don't shuck work; I don't mind work. Curtis, congratulations on a race well run. Tom, congratulations to you as well. These guys really become true friends during this race, and that does my heart good, so don't give up the dream. Curtis, the 4th Vice President has lots to look forward to. I know you can do it because, coming from the North Pole of Texas, there's nothing but green roads in front of you. So with that, what I want to pass first is this beautiful badge.

4th VICE PRESIDENT CURTIS BROWN: Thank you.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: But the main thing I really want you to have is this designer shoebox. (Laughter.)

3rd VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: Now, I will tell you, people will definitely try to get it. You can trust everybody in here with your life.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: You can trust everybody in here with your wife. Trust no one with this box. (Laughter/ Applause.)

4th VICE PRESIDENT CURTIS BROWN: Thank you guys for your support. I really believe I have the mustache for the job. (Laughter.)

4th VICE PRESIDENT CURTIS BROWN: Thank y'all, and I'll represent you, you, the people. Thank you. (Applause.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Donny, that really hurt because you know you can trust me with that box.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: No, sir. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Let's get the mascot up here.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: So first, I would like to say that I thoroughly enjoyed this year. I got to visit many districts and many county meetings. And I'm very sorry for those who I couldn't visit because in the fall, I had show; and in the spring, I had hip surgery, which cut my tour a little short. So -- I know everybody's wondering. So starting off my campaign, I set out a goal that I said I was going to raise more than my brother; and within the first six months, I did that. So I thought, why not double it? And I can gladly say I have raised \$3,000. (Applause.)

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: And that is not including the twenty that was just put in there, because of the box; so I'm going to leave that in there to start you off, and I would like to say: enjoy this year, because it goes by really fast, and try to visit as many district meetings and as many county meetings as you can because many of them said that I was the first one in years to go there, and that was really sad to hear, but really glad I could start that off. So here's the badge. And tag, you're it. (Laughter/ Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Wait a minute, Kylie. We appreciate you very much and the hard work that you have done; and with that, I want to present you with your lifetime badge as the mascot. Thank you very much. And it's kind of hard to say this, but the good looks on this board just went. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: So thank you very much.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Would you like to say something?

MASCOT LANDON FLISOWSKI: Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be your mascot. I will be the best mascot, try to. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: At this time, we're going to present Harvie. He loses one coat, and he gains another one. We call it the red coat.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I thought it was the jacket, not a coat, because the last time we had red coats, it wasn't a good thing. Just saying.

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Hey, you get to wear that red from now on. It's not maroon. It's red. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT HARVIE CHESHIRE: Yes, sir. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT HARVIE CHESHIRE: It's also crimson red, gold tie. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Along with that, we have your Past Presidents badge. And at this time, going to have Kenneth here pin it on you. And, Harvie, everybody here has got your six, but it's your job to find out where 12 o'clock is, and we will follow you buddy, always. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: We'll do the swearing in; but before we do, I'm going to ask Harvie and Mike to step down here and get that plaque signed. The gold stars that go on this plaque when a past president deceaseds. By the grace of God, we didn't have to place one on it this year; and, hopefully, we don't have to place any on it in the coming years. (Signing.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Mike, one other thing real quick. Mike, you have been a good leader, you've been a good friend, and it gives me great pleasure that you have served us so well. And with you becoming and me a past president, I want to present you with your life membership to this association. That's a gold card. We also have a plaque here to Michael Richardson SFFMA President 2018-2019, 143rd Annual SFFMA Training Conference and Convention, June the 21st to the 26th, 2019, Longview, Texas. Also, the 101st Annual Conference, Longview, Texas, 1977 plate. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Now, if y'all would line up facing the audience. Rank and file. These officers, before I swear y'all in, y'all know that y'all are a significant part of this organization. Please raise your right hand. Repeat after me. (Officers comply, as follows:)

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: I, state your name, do hereby promise to support and defend the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association and to fulfill the duties of the office to which I have been elected, so help me God. Ladies and gentlemen, as past president and co-chairman of the Past Presidents' Club, I now declare each of you duly installed officers to which you have been elected to. Ladies and gentlemen, join me in welcoming your 2019-2020 board of directors. (Applause.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Okay. As presiding officer, I want to use a little privilege here and say, you know, when we first came up with Longview, there were some people that thought, well, you know, Longview's not big enough; they're not set up for conventions. I think Longview has done an excellent job this year. I've thoroughly enjoyed this. Any large department such as Longview, that their fire chief works part-time somewhere where he gets to ride backwards every now and then, can't be all bad. (Laughter.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: You know? So, Chief Steelman, if you were here, I appreciate it. You Longview guys, be sure and tell him how much we've enjoyed our stay here. And with that, I will turn it over to the new president, Tim Smith, for your thing.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: I probably won't ever say "howdy," just so y'all know. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Kylie, where are you? Come on back up. We got a little something for you here.

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: All right. Kylie, this is from my wife, Latresha and me, and from Jim and from Rayford and Donny back there. So this is for you and for all of the hard work you've done in the convention. And we appreciate it so much. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: This is from Billie and I, and we just want to thank you for such an awesome year. I know it started out a little rocky for you, got a little rockier, but you prevailed. We sure do appreciate you. Thank you so much.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you so much. (Applause.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Kylie, I gave you a gift from me and my wife, Pam, earlier. I paid for it; Pam bought it. (Laughter.)

1st VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD VAN WINKLE: Out on the job, I'm sorry. But congratulations. You did excellent for us. Thank you so very much.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you, sir. (Applause.)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT CHUCK RICHARDSON: Kylie, I kind of cheated. I got hints from your mom on what you might want. But you've done great things for the SFFMA as mascot, and I know you'll do great things in the future. Thank you.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you, sir. (Applause.)

3rd VICE PRESIDENT DONNY BOGGS: Kylie, we came on board together, and what I've got in there -- I'm not real good at picking out gifts, but I'm going to say it's green, if that'll give you any hint. (Laughter.)

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you so much. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT MIKE RICHARDSON: Kylie, it was such a pleasure to have you this year as the mascot for this association, while I was the president. You did an outstanding job, was very proud of you, and thank you, thank you. There's a little something in there.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you so much. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT REX KLESEL: Rex Klesel with the Alvin Fire Department, Fire Chief/Past President. Kylie, you and your brother have represented the state association and Alvin Fire Department, and you did a much better job than your brother, and you're much prettier. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT REX KLESEL: We have a little gift from the Alvin Fire Department that we would like to give to you, and personally from me.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you.

PAST PRESIDENT REX KLESEL: Thank you for representing us. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT RUSTY KATTNER: Kylie, I'm Rusty Kattner. I'm the past president from 2015, and my wife is somewhere in the audience -- there she is. She's past president of TFA. We always try to give the mascot something really nice; but like Richard, I had nothing to do with the selection, but I did pay for it. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT RUSTY KATTNER: I hope that you enjoy it. It's a girlie-girl thing. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT RUSTY KATTNER: That's one of the reasons why I didn't have anything to do with picking it out. But you've been a good mascot, and we really appreciate everything you did, especially representing the Gulf Coast area. You did a fantastic job. Thank you so much.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you, sir. (Applause.)

PAST PRESIDENT DAVID WADE: David Wade, Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department/Past President 2013. Kylie, it's already been said: you did a great job. I can't wait to see your brother and rub his nose in the fact that you beat him in six months and made more money. (Laughter.)

PAST PRESIDENT DAVID WADE: So I'll give him a hard time about that. But just a small token of our appreciation, Donna and me. We want to present this to you, and thank you so much for all you did for the SFFMA and MDA this past year. (Applause.)

TFA PAST PRESIDENT PAM MAPLES: First of all, your brother is sad that he couldn't come, but he is taking care of animals at home. He did, however, get you a gift. And a boy in training; he did pay for it; mom helped him pick it out. And then your dad and I are very proud of you.

MR. GENE MAPLES: We love you, baby. (Applause.)

MS. HEATHER VAN DINE: Kylie, your local auxiliary, all the ladies' auxiliary, would like to, one, thank you for all of your service you have done for you locally throughout the years. And then we are also very proud and have a gift for you for how well you represented the state, and congrats on beating Dawson. (Laughter.)

MS. HEATHER VAN DINE: And we also want to wish you good luck on your up-and-coming endeavor of running for Brazoria County Fair queen, representing Alvin High School. (Applause.)

SERGEANT AT ARMS CARGILE: Kylie, on behalf of the Gulf Coast (indistinct), we'd like to say thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication.

SERGEANT AT ARMS CARGILE: If you ever need anything at all, you know where we're at. Congratulations on beating your brother, but -- (Laughter.)

SERGEANT AT ARMS CARGILE: Also, I couldn't pass up the opportunity last night. I remember -- I don't remember where we were at, but I remember taking that hydrant from Dawson. So how could we take it from Dawson and not you, so. Just understand I love you. (Laughter.)

MR. ANDY VAN DINE: Kylie, Heather and I, we really love you like one of our daughters. You are our convention daughter. So we got you a little something to help you out. We really do love you.

PAST MASCOT KYLIE MAPLES: Thank you so much.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All right. A couple of things real quick. You know, let's take a moment again to thank Chief Mike Richardson down there. You know, during our campaign--and I've said it before--that we didn't really know each other that much, but we've become very good friends. I've learned a great deal--some things I can mention here; some things I can't--but all joking aside, Mike is a good man. You'd be hard-pressed to find someone who really loves the fire service more than Mike. So at this time, let's give Mike Richardson another round of applause for his dedication and -- (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Also, as I stand before you, I'm pretty humbled to be at the helm of this great organization. I look over and see all the past presidents and extremely thankful for the service they've provided, the groundwork that they've laid for us. So, again, let's thank the past presidents for everything they've done in the past. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: And I'd also be remiss to not thank the TFA. It's a great organization. I don't know, I think they're still in their meeting over there. But when you see one of them walking around, thank them for what they do. We can't do this job without the TFA, and that's for sure. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: When I was elected in Galveston, jokingly, I think I had -- it was actually an EKG strip, and I recorded all the advice I had taken to become president and I flung it out and it was about seven feet long -- that really helped in Lubbock, didn't it? Mike Richardson. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: I'm sure glad he won in Lubbock. He got to do legislative year. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: In any case, believe it or not, I heeded most of that advice. I listened to it, that was taken to heart, and I try to utilize it every day. I just want to thank those that have graciously reached out to me and offered me that advice, because it's been very important to me. It's been a good year; it's going to be a great year next year, too; and I'll even say it was a great year last year.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: You know, Chris and Mike and J. Pete, all those guys, (indistinct) T-Flag, did a lot of things at the legislative session, and we all have heard that repeatedly today. Certification's up and running, right? GrowthZone works. Membership's coming along. We continue to see improvements in that arena. Industrial is going great. We see improvements in that area. I believe we're going to see a great, great influx of members as a result of the TIESB certification. That gives value and credibility to their training, to their vocation, to what they do every single day, and they deserve that, right? They deserve that to hang on their wall. It's going to be good for us, but it's also good for our firefighters of Texas. However, do realize, we're in a fight. Not with the other fire service agencies, not with the law enforcement, you know, the police officers, not with EMS. We're in a fight with ourselves.

It's no secret, volunteerism's on the decline. There's nobody in here that can deny that fact. However, I refuse to say it's dying. I also refuse to say that I accept this is as good as it's ever going to be. I won't accept it, and I hope none of you here accept it as well. We have to reexamine the way we do business. Our business model has not changed since our inception, to speak of. While we honor tradition--and we're going to honor that tradition, I promise--we cannot let that tradition get in the way of our progress, the way of our future. We must be, again, open-minded when studying how we do business when we're talking about district involvement, annual training conference, or even voting.

Our current model is antique, and we need to change it and fast. Rest assured, there will be plenty other problems in the future. This is a good time to get ahead of those. We're not talking about a change to our core (indistinct) values. Those remain steady and solid, steady and solid. One of the greatest responsibilities we have as a board is to communicate to you our unwavering clarity of those values of this organization will not be compromised, ever. You have my word and the fellow board members up here, that this organization will remain intact as we venture through this change.

So as we begin a new year, let's set an example, one of positivity, one, a desire to make the organization here for our grandkids and their grandkids. Facts do not exist simply because they're ignored. Now, before you take that the wrong way, our organization is solid. We're financially solid, our leadership is solid, we're not losing members at an alarming rate; but if we want those trends to continue, we've got to get ahead of it. We're in a unique position right now. Thankfully, President Richardson recognized that fact. He put together a committee to begin to study our business model. We're going to continue that. Some of you guys in here are members of that. Some of you heard about that. However, that's going to be tough to do. It's going to be change. Will that change be hard? Yes. Can we do that change? Absolutely. Make no mistake, once the model is ready for reveal, you'll all know about it. You'll all hear about it. We're going to spread the word.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: The board will be open and honest about what changes that we're proposing to make. Honest conversation with thought to the entire state must be held. Emotions, while they're important, they've got to be kept out of it. We got to look at the state as a whole, not just my little territory up there west of Lubbock, right? We've got to look at the whole territory, and this board will be open and honest about what we're trying to do. You have my word on that. Mark Twain once said, "If you always tell the truth, you never have to remember anything." I didn't get that from Richard, but I should have. That sounds like something he would say. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: So we promise to be as transparent as possible, promise to work hard for the association and uphold our core values. You have our word to keep to our mission. Much, much more of this to come. So I want to thank y'all for placing your trust in me. I won't forget who I work for: all of you. I want to thank my members of West Carlisle, my family. Good folks. So -- you know, even my brother and my twin sister got in on the action one time. My mother was a bartender in Galveston, yeah, so -- she's 85 now, and she promises to be my bartender in Lubbock. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: And if any of y'all ever drank her drinks, yeah, you'll like them. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: So here's to a great year. I promise to work hard for you. This board will work hard for you. I thank my family. I thank all of you for putting trust in me. And please reach out; let us know what you're thinking, because we're going to be reaching out to you. Thank you, and I appreciate it. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: So it looks like at this time, we'll have any announcements from the floor. Also remind you when you speak, please state who are, where you're from, and speak clearly into the microphone for the court reporter.

FIRE CHIEF STEVEN LOVING: Steven Loving, Ingleside Volunteer Fire Department, the South Central District. With the support of my city, county, and district, I am seeking the 4th vice presidency at the 144th Training Conference and Convention in Lubbock, Texas, and I would appreciate any and all support from the membership. I promise to support you all as well and be as open and honest as I possibly can. Thank you. (Applause.)

FIRE CHIEF THOM JONES: Hello, I'm Thom Jones. I will be running again for 4th Vice President. I appreciate all the support that I had. Y'all elected a really good guy, and I am sure that he is going to make us all very proud. Thank you. (Applause.)

MISS HALEY JOHNSTON: My name is Haley Johnston and I'm with the Northeast Texas Fire District, and I'd like to present the new mascot with a check of \$276.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All right. Applause.)

FIRE CHIEF BILLY TIDWELL: Hello, everybody, Billy Tidwell. I'm with the Panhandle District. And I'll be running also for Lubbock, and I look forward to seeing everybody out on the campaign trail. Thank you. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Any other announcements from the floor? Are there any other announcements? Mario Garcia.

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF MARIO GARCIA: Hello, my name is Mario Garcia, assistant fire chief down at Carrizo Springs. I'm here to nominate Hannah Brown for mascot next year. Hannah is a really good kid. I've known her since the day she was born. She is the daughter of Curtis Brown. I really love this kid. She has a great character, and I think she'll do a good job. (Applause.)

MISS HANNAH BROWN: May I say something?

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: You sure may.

MISS HANNAH BROWN: Hi, my name's Hannah. I'm from Dalhart, Texas. I am 15 years old, and I am currently a sophomore at Dalhart High School, where I'm active in 4-H. I recently made it to State this year. I play softball, where I'm second baseman. I've already starting raising money for MDA, where, at convention, I started a kids' table so kids and families can be involved in our convention, and the quote is Kids Helping Kids. So while those kids are getting something, they're also giving something in return, to help the other kids. I was at prom with someone who has muscular dystrophy, and he is my best friend. I really care about people, and I would really like your vote. Thank you.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Any other announcement?

SECRETARY BRENT ALLEN: Just got an email from the convention center. They have some flags for this weekend. I don't know if they belong to the local department or district, over at the convention center, with bases, and a gift bag that has been left at the convention center. Also, the very nice ring that was found has been turned in to the Longview Fire Department. So if you hear of somebody that is missing what looks like an engagement or some type of diamond ring, it is now in the hands of the Longview Police Department. Thanks.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: One more announcement.

FIRE CHIEF JERRY TAYLOR: My name is Jerry Taylor. I'm currently the president of the Northeast Texas District. I'm the chief of the Gilmer Volunteer Fire Department, and I am going to run for 4th Vice President in McAllen in 2021. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All right. Any others? If there's no other announcements, then I'll ask F. Jim to come up.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: If you'll open your programs to page 12, you have printed Resolution 1 and Resolution 2.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: At this time, I would like to have a motion from the floor. Will you stand and state your name and your district or your fire department to accept Resolution 1.

RESOLUTION 1

WHEREAS, the delegates and visitors of the 143rd Annual Training Conference and Convention of the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas have enjoyed and appreciated the generous hospitality and courtesy shown them by the people of the City of Longview, Fire Chief J. P. Steelman, members of the Longview Fire Department, and the officers and members of the Northeast Texas District.

WHEREAS, we are fully aware of the money, effort, energy and time spent to make this training conference and convention so highly successful, entertaining, and educational:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Association expresses its sincere appreciation, and heartfelt thanks to all these and all others who have worked so hard and so long to make this a successful undertaking.

PAST PRESIDENT HENRY PERRY: Henry Perry, Past President. I make a motion we adopt Resolution Number 1.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: Do we have a second?

PAST PRESIDENT PAUL HAMILTON: Second. Paul Hamilton, Panhandle District, Past President 2016.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All right, we have a motion on the floor and a second to accept the resolution as written. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All those negatives, same sign. (No response.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Motion carries.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: Thank you. I call for a motion from the floor to accept Resolution 2. Would you also please stand and state your name and your district or your fire department to accept Resolution 2.

RESOLUTION 2

WHEREAS, the continued growth, service, effectiveness and future of the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas is due to the untiring efforts of many dedicated and devoted individuals; and

WHEREAS we, the firefighters of Texas, are pleased and gratified with the accomplishments made through the efforts of these people,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this association commends and expresses deep appreciation to:

- President.....Mike Richardson
- 1st Vice PresidentTim Smith
- 2nd Vice PresidentRichard Van Winkle
- 3rd Vice PresidentChuck Richardson

- 4th Vice President Donny Boggs
- Secretary Brent Allen
- Assistant Secretary F. Jim White
- Chaplain Ben Kennedy
- Mascot Kylie Maples
- Past President Harvie Cheshire
- Board Appointed Parliamentarian Rayford Gibson

Executive Director Chris Barron, and the State Staff for their efforts; and **BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that our appreciation be expressed to the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, and Director David Coatney, and Emergency Services Training Institute Division Director Robert Moore and his staff, the volunteer instructors, and the officials of the Texas A&M University for their continued efforts on behalf of the firefighters of Texas and also Texas A&M Forest Service, and its Director Tom G. Boggus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that special appreciation be exhibited for the work done by the past presidents of the association, and to the districts officers who have so diligently worked on our behalf.

PAST PRESIDENT KYLE STEPHENS: Kyle Stephens, Past President 2007, Decatur Fire Department. I make a motion that we accept Resolution Number 2.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: Thank you, Kyle. Is there a second?

MR. FRANKIE JOE SALINAS: Second. Frankie Joe Salinas, Rio Grande Valley, La Joya Fire Department.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: We have a motion and a second. Mr. President.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Motion and a second on the Resolution Number 2. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

MEMBER ATTENDEES: (Reply aye.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All those opposed, same sign. (No response.)

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: Motion carries.

ASST. SECRETARY F. JIM WHITE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT TIM SMITH: All right. I think we're done, folks. I appreciate everyone. Look forward to seeing everyone out there on the road, and I will declare this 143rd Convention adjourned. (Convention concludes.)

DRIVING CONTEST

The truck driving contest was conducted on Sunday morning June 23, 2019 at 7:30 a.m. in the back parking lot. We had eleven drivers to sign up and ten drivers to show up on Sunday morning. In third place with a time of 2:48.61 was Alvin Fail of Cameron Fire Department. In second place with a time of 2:25.78 was Michael Van Winkle of Jackson Heights Volunteer Fire Department and in First place with a time of 2:15.49 was Dale Peterson of Chapel Hill Fire Department.

The Truck Driving Committee this year consisted of

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Michael Richter | Gulf Coast District | Chairman |
| Dennis Gage | Northeast Texas District | |
| Alvin Fail | Central Texas District | |
| Marc Nichols | Northeast Texas District | |
| Scott Charbula | Guadalupe District | |

We were assisted this year by

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kurt Jasinski | Central Texas District |
| Amber Hill | Northeast Texas District |
| Reese Fail | Central Texas District |
| David Luedeke | Past President |
| Shirley Richter | Gulf Coast District. |

A special thanks to the committee members and helpers who were in the parking lot at 6:00am to set up the course, Chief Jerry Taylor of Gilmer Fire Department for the fire truck, City of Longview for the traffic cones.

Submitted by,

Michael Richter
Chairman

GARY TILTON MEMORIAL POSTER CONTEST

Total number of districts represented: 10

Total number of posters submitted: 139

*Kindergarten Division (Pre-K, K)
23 posters from 10 districts*

First Place: HECTOR REYES

School: Bonham

Fire Department: Harlingen

District: Rio Grande Valley

Second Place: ABRAHAM MCBRIDE

School: St Rose of Lima

Fire Department: Schulenburg

District: Guadalupe

Third Place: Skylee Evans

School: Anson Elementary

Fire Department: Anson

District: Mid-West Texas

*Primary Division (grades 1 - 2)
26 posters from 10 districts*

First Place: OLIVIA WEIR

School: Carlisle Elementary

Fire Department: Plano Fire & Rescue

District: North Texas

Second Place: MAKENNA HUSLIG

School: Stinson Elementary

Fire Department: Plano Fire & Rescue

District: North Texas

Third Place: LAILAH SAN MIGUEL

School:

Fire Department: Bryan

District: Central Texas

*Intermediate Division (grades 3 - 4)
27 posters from 10 districts*

First Place: SU-JEONG LA
School: L.A. Morgan Elementary
Fire Department: Galveston
District: Gulf Coast

Second Place: ADAMAE DAVENPORT
School: Wilson Elementary
Fire Department: Harlingen
District: Rio Grande Valley

Third Place: ISABELLA WANG
School: Skuggs Elementary
Fire Department: Plano Fire-Rescue
District: North Texas

*Middle Division (grades 5 - 6)
22 posters from 10 districts*

First Place: DAYLIN PITTS
School: Round Top - Carmine
Fire Department: Warrenton
District: Guadalupe

Second Place: GIOVANNY MONTES DEOCA
School:
Fire Department: Pasadena
District: Gulf Coast/ Tri-Rivers

Third Place: ANTHONY HERNANDEZ
School: Anson Elementary
Fire Department: Anson FD
District: Mid-West Texa

Junior High Division (grades 7 - 8)

20 posters from 10 districts

First Place: LUCY CAI
School: Schimelpfenig Middle
Fire Department: Plano Fire & Rescue
District: North Texas

Second Place: ANA LIZ CASTILLO
School: Crenshaw
Fire Department: Galveston
District: Gulf Coast

Third Place: AMIE TURNER
School: Jackson
Fire Department: Pasadena
District: Gulf Coast

High School Division (grades 9 – 12)
21 posters from 10 districts

First Place: YU MEI
School: Plano West
Fire Department: Plano Fire & Rescue
District: North Texas

Second Place: AIDEN SALINAS
School: Orange Grove
Fire Department: Orange Grove
District: South Texas

Third Place: MAKAYLA GOLLIDAY
School: Ball
Fire Department: Galveston
District: Gulf Coast

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS ANNUAL REPORT

During the 2019 Conference and Convention in Longview the Sergeant-at-Arms noted the following items:

The Exhibit Hall move in on Friday went very well and completed on time.

Saturday's Exhibit Hall was fair and small. We would recommend more vendors with items to sell on-site. We checked on the vendors and helped them feel welcome. The Sergeant-at-Arms committee began to pack up the Exhibit Hall an hour early. We will keep a closer watch on the schedule and stick to it.

The registration packets were better but still found to be missing items and led to some issues of attendees not getting everything. We suggest a registration committee to prepare these packets and review the registration process on Friday.

Sunday's Memorial service did not have the proper audio and visual equipment available. The convention hall staff did not clean the floor well before setting up. There were several areas with oil and tire bright that made the floor slippery. The main aisle was too narrow for the procession to walk side by side. Set up and practice on Saturday continues to serve us best giving us time to correct problems we listed above.

We were surprised by the attendance of one of the LODD family but by having a plan and color guard available, we were able to take care of them properly. The Memorial Luncheon needed more serving lines and better preparation. Attendees were still trying to eat at 1 p.m. Several tables did not have salads or dessert. Most tables did not have salad dressing. The missing man table was not properly set up and was corrected by staff and Sergeant-at-Arms.

Monday classes had some sign in issues, attendees were not prepared to arrive early to obtain a bar code for scantron use. In addition, many of the attendees had to wait in line twice because pre-registration was not transferred into TEEX system.

Hospitality on Monday night went well, and we are not aware of any problems. Rooms shut down as scheduled and halls were quiet on time.

Tuesday classes were well attended. There were some issues with cancelled classes. Getting the full 16 hours of training helps to justify the expense of attending the conference.

Tuesday night's Dinner and Dance could be improved by having the cash bar in the reception area with access to the TFA for ticket sales. Having the buffet serving lines inside the ballroom would make meal accountability easier. Overall everyone appeared to have a good time.

Wednesday Business Session went well.

Having a key staff member responsible for the packing and shipping of convention supplies has been a tremendous help. The loading list was implemented and seemed to work well.

Overall the 143rd SFFMA Training Conference and Convention was a success. We look forward to serving again in Lubbock.

It is with a heavy heart that after 30 years of service on the Sergeant-at-Arms committee as chairman, it is time to pass the baton. I am stepping down quietly as chairman and request to remain on the committee. I respectfully request the board approve Matt Cornell as chairman and Tommy Sanchez as co-chairman.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Kleen, chairman

CERTIFICATION BOARD

Recognize Certification Board

Recognize Gary Williams

4 Master Certifications

Growthzone is not that bad

- Call your Zone Representative
- Use the PowerPoint and PDF
- Get your hands on it and start working with it

NFPA 1072 Update

- Plan to implement January 2020

Industrial Certification

- Should be a cross wall between Industrial and Municipal

No more progress reports

- Continue entering data into Growthzone and keep applying for certifications

Register for written tests online.

PUMPER RACES

There were no Pumper Races at the 2019 conference.

DISTRICT REPORTS

CENTRAL TEXAS DISTRICT

164th Semi Annual Convention Minutes
October 7, 2018
Cameron, Tx

Meeting called to order - President Richard Mueck.

Invocation - Ben Kennedy

Post of Colors - Cameron Fire Department

Pledge of Allegiance - Landon Flisowski

Introductions & Recognition of Elected Officials - Henry Horelica

Welcome - Mayor Connie Anderlie

Response to Welcome - 2nd VP Ben Kennedy

Announcement of Ladies Auxiliary Meeting Location - President Sharon Flisowski

Roll Call - Asst. Secretary - Alvin Fail

a. Past Presidents

b. Departments

Approval of Minutes of the 163rd Convention - A motion was made by David Miller and seconded by Kurt Jasinski to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed.

Dollar Bill Drawing Announcement - 2nd VP Ben Kennedy

Report on Raffle - President Richard Mueck

Appointment of Committees - President Richard Mueck

a. Credentials Committee - 4th VP Kurt Jasinski

b. Audit Committee - PP Ryan Hudson

c. Past President Committee - PP Ryan Hudson

d. Registration Committee - 4th VP Kurt Jasinski

e. Resolutions Committee - 1st VP Billy Jasinski

f. Constitution and By-Laws Committee - 2nd VP Ben Kennedy

g. Nomination Committee - PP Ryan Hudson

h. Golf Liaison - PP Ryan Hudson

i. Pumper Races Committee - 3rd VP Lynn Bizzell

Introduction of Vendors - 4th VP Kurt Jasinski announced the one vendor we had was VFIS.

Introduction of SFFMA Executive Board - 4th VP Kurt Jasinski
SFFMA Committee reports - SFFMA president Mike Richardson gave a report from the executive board.

Guest Speaker - Brian Scheffer SFFMA GrowthZone Website
Old Business - President Richard Mueck
New Business - President Richard Mueck

a. Need to correct the minutes for the Spring Convention in Bastrop on May 4, 2014. They currently read the 154th Semi Annual and should read 155th Semi Annual

i. A motion was made by Henry Perry and seconded by David Miller to accept the revision of the minutes. The motion passed.

Committee reports

a. Credentials Committee - 4th VP Kurt Jasinski

- i. Fire Departments - 11
- ii. Central Texas Past Presidents - 11
- iii. SFFMA Executive Board Members - 7
- iv. TFA Executive Board Members - 1
- v. Vendors - 1
- vi. Special Guests - 1
- vii. FD Members - 40
- viii. Kids under 12 - 5
- ix. Spouses - 20
- x. Total attendees - 86
- xi. Attendance Trophy - Brenham
- xii. Mileage Trophy - Brenham

b. Audit Committee - PP Ryan Hudson reported that the audit of the finances from the last meeting found no discrepancies

c. Past President Committee - PP Ryan Hudson reported that the Past Presidents talked about ways to increase the attendance and participation at the District meetings. There were no solutions found.

d. Registration Committee - 4th VP Kurt Jasinski - see credentials

e. Resolutions Committee - 1st VP Billy Jasinski read a resolution to the host city of Cameron. Ben Kennedy also read a Memorial Committee resolution dedicating this convention to Past Mascot

Kelby Jasinski.

f. Constitution and By-Laws Committee - 2nd VP Ben Kennedy had no report

g. Nomination Committee - PP Ryan Hudson reported that Carry Roccaforte was running for 4th VP and Rylee Fail was running for Mascot

h. Golf Liaison - PP Ryan Hudson

i. First Place - Cameron

ii. Second Place - Cameron/Burton

iii. Third Place - Latium

i. Pumper Races Committee - 3rd VP Lynn Bizzell reported that there were no Pumper Races in Brenham due to lack of participants.

Announcement of Racing Captain Meeting - There will be no Pumper Races due to the lack of participation.

Elevation of current officers - PP Ryan Hudson entertained a motion to elevate the presidents. A motion was made by Randy Parkison and seconded by David Miller to elevate the presidents.

Election of officers - New president Billy Jasinski

a. A motion was made by Henry Perry and seconded by Billy Joe Jasinski to accept Cary Roccaforte as the 4th Vice President. Motion passed.

b. A motion was made by Henry Perry and seconded by David Miller to accept Rylee Fail as the Mascot. Motion passed.

c. A motion was made by Henry Perry and seconded by Brian Janes to accept Brian Scheffer as Secretary/Treasurer and Alvin Fail as Assistant Secretary/ Treasurer by acclimation. Motion passed.

d. There were no Chaplain nominations.

Passing of Badges and Trophies

a. Presentation of Mikolaj Trophy, Lifetime Membership, PP Badge - Ryan to Richard

b. Presentation of Randolph Trophy - Richard to Billy

c. Passing of VP badges

d. Presentation of mascot badge - Landon to new mascot

e. Presentation of past mascot badge - PP Mueck

2018/2019 Executive Board

President - Billy Jo Jasinski 1st VP - Ben Kennedy
2nd VP - Lynn Bizzell 3rd VP - Kurt Jasinski
4th VP - Cary Roccaforte Secretary/Treasurer - Brian
Scheffer

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Alvin Fail

Mascot - Rylee Fail Past President - Richard Mueck

Announcements from the floor

a. Landon Flisowski of Brenham announced that he will be running for SFFMA Mascot in Longview.

b. A letter was read by Chuck Richardson in regards to Casey Johnson of Wild Peach running for SFFMA Mascot in Longview.

Announcements from Board - Spring Convention will be held in Fredericksburg and the date will be announced at a later time.

Announcement of President Fundraiser Winner - Terry Johnson, Jonathan Mendoza, and Goza Funeral Services were the winners of the Gun Raffle.

Dollar Bill Drawing - Ben Kennedy reported that the Dollar Bill Drawing winner was Harvie Cheshire for \$90. \$30 goes to Harvie, \$30 goes to Cameron and \$30 goes to Central TX District

Ladies Auxiliary Report - Kelly Weiss reported that the Ladies Auxiliary was disbanding due to the lack of participation. The money that the women have will go to the Central Texas District with the stipulation that \$100 be set aside for possible future auxiliary set up.

Closing prayer - 1st VP Ben Kennedy

Adjournment - A motion was made by Chris Yianitsas and seconded by David Miller to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Door Prizes - Cameron FD

Lunch - Cameron FD

Memorial Service - Ben Kennedy

Respectfully Submitted

Brian Scheffer, CTFMA Secretary

GUADALUPE DISTRICT

164th Semi Annual Convention

October 13, 2018

Seguin, Tx

The 164th Semi-Annual Convention was held in Seguin, Texas and hosted by McQueeney VFD. Secretary Kent watts read the rules of the Convention. President Louise Watts introduced McQueeney Fire Chief Tim Bogisch to deliver the welcome to the Convention. Secretary Watts called roll. There were 48 in attendance. He received numerous phone calls that people could not attend due to severe weather. He said he received a phone call from Kirby stating they are all paid FD but ask to remain a member. Secretary Watts stated that Marion and Lockhart were at least 3 years in arrears and needed to be withdrawn from the District. Motion was made and second to remove them. Motion carried. Secretary Watts made a motion to accept the minutes from the 163rd Semi Annual Convention. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

District Committee reports were given by the Guadalupe Members. President Watts reported Tim Bogisch of McQueeney placed in the top three for Firefighter of the Year at the State convention. Butch Tolbert gave the audit report. Everything was in order.

Old Business: Discussion was had about holding the convention once a year. There were several different opinions on the subject. Will bring it back up in the Fall.

New Business: Nomination was made by Sergeant-at-Arms Elroy Hoffer of Seguin to elevate the officers. Elections were held and the results were; Chris Farley of Stockdale - 2nd Vice President, Kent Watts-Secretary and Edwin Baker-Asst. Secretary, Paul Lesak Chaplain and Caleb Weniger Mascot.

Recognitions: 1st VP J Paul Bruhn introduced the SFFMA and special guests in attendance. SFFMA 4th Vice President Donny Boggs, Executive Director Chris Barron and VFIS Tom Van Wyngarden. 4th VP Donny Boggs gave a report on what is happening at the state level. President Louise Watts

introduced the morning guest speaker Executive Director Chris Barron. Chief Barron spoke on the LODD benefits and other benefits the SFFMA offers its members. He also talked about the Fire Academy. Tom Van Wyngarden spoke on the new VFIS Health and Safety grant program. President Louise Watts introduced the Past Presidents, Firefighter of the year and EMS Responder of the Year. Those in attendance were Past Presidents: Don Pullin, Rudy Schmidt, Vic Einspahr, Alonzo Morales, Butch Tolbert, Kent Watts, Gerald Weniger, Tim Bogisch and Paul Lesak. Also recognized was SFFMA 2010 Past President Kent Watts and 1999 Past President Terry Mayfield. The past winners of the Firefighter of the year in attendance were: Alonzo Morales, Rudy Schmidt, Elroy Hoffer, Don Pullin (SFFMA's FFOY), Vic Einspahr, Louise Watts, Alonzo Morales (SFFMA's FFOY) and Tim Bogisch. SFFMA EMS Responder of the Year: Gerald Weniger. Stockdale won the attendance award. Dollar bill drawing of \$45 was won by Aimee Farley of Stockdale. President Louise Watts informed the District that the Ladies Auxiliary did not have a quorum in several past meetings. At this date, they have disbanded. President J. Paul Bruhn closed the 164th semi-annual convention at 1:30 p.m.

165th Semi Annual Convention

May 18, 2019

La Grange, Tx

The 165th Semi-Annual Convnetion was held in La Grange, Texas and hosted by the La Grange VFD. Fayette County Judge Joe Webb was the morning speaker and welcomed the district to the convention. Secretary Kent Watts read the rules of the convention and called roll. There was a total of 70 in attendance. Secretary Kent Watts made a motion to accept the minutes from the 164th Semi Annual convention. Seconded by Brian Deason. Motion carried.

District Committee reports were given by Guadalupe members. PP Louise Watts presented the Firefighter of the Year award to Scott Charbula. Secretary Watts stated all taxes and reports have been filed. Selection of convention cities for fall 2019 will possibly be Kingsbury, the spring 2020 will be in La Grange and fall

2020 will be held in Cuero.

Old Business: Discussion was once again held about going to one a year. Membership decided to leave it as it is now being semi-annually.

New Business: Motion was made by PP Louise Watts to do away with the ribbons as they were yellowed and did not stick. Motion was seconded and carried. PP Don McFarland stated there were too many minutes to scan and put on flash drive. President Bruhn wanted to hire a company, PP Watts stated the District did not have the funds at this time. Discussion would be put to vote at the next convention. Guest included SFFMA 3rd Vice President Chuck Richardson, 4th Vice President Donny Boggs, Past President Harvie Cheshire, Thom Jones seeking office of 4th Vice President and Tom Van Wyngarden from VFIS. State officers gave reports on the Legislative issues. Letters were read from Curtis Brown seeking the office of SFFMA 4th, Landon Flisowski and Casey Johnston both seeking election for the SFFMA Mascot.

PP Watts introduced the Past Presidents. In attendance were Rudy Schmidt, Vic Einspahr, Alonzo Morales, Don McFarland, Butch Tolbert, Kent Watts, Edwin Baker, Timothy Bogisch, Tina Bollmann, Gerald Weniger, Isidore Moy, Corey Tolbert, Mark Wobus, Paul Lesak, Brian Deason and Louise Watts. Also recognized was SFFMA 2010 Past President Kent Watts.

Fire Prevention poster chariman and past president Alonzo Morales called out the winners. Stockdale won the Attendance Award. Dollar bill drawing was won by Brian Ladwig of Cuero.

The 162nd GFFFMA Memorial Service honored Nicholas Zoulek of Chisholm Trail, Leon Herring of Columbus, Josh Sullivan of Cuero, Lloyd Tiller, Sr. of Luling and Hilmar Rennspies and Glen Braune of Seguin. Ladies Auxiliary members Mieko Einspahr of Beeville and Mary Kolbe of Seguin. Chaplain Lesak gave the memorial message and past president Louise Watts read the firefighter and ladies auxiliary names. Past President Butch Tolbert sounded taps. Joshua Bruhn of La Grange rang the bell. President Bruhn closed the 165th semi-annual convention at 3:30 p.m.

EAST TEXAS DISTRICT

Meeting Location(s): (Different host cities) Oct. 2018, Hemphill, TX and April 2019, Pineland, TX

Meeting Dates/Times: (2 nd or 3rd weekend in April/Oct.)

2018 - 2019 District Board Members:

President - Harvie Cheshire/Madisonville,

1st VP - Thom Jones/Madisonville,

2nd VP - ,

3rd VP - Glen Chance/Hemphill,

4th VP - Michael Daffron/Hemphill

Immediate Past President - John Paul Ivy/Bridge City

Sec-Treasurer - Dennis Gifford/Kountze

Chaplain - Tracy Lane/Pineland

Willo Sylestine, Zone 7 Certification Board Member

April 2019 Election outcomes:

Thom Jones, President - Madisonville

Glen Chance, VP - Hemphill

Michael Daffron, 2VP - Hemphill

Jon Daffron, 3VP - Hemphill

James Singleton, 4th - Hemphill

Harvie Cheshire, Past President, Madisonville

Billy Gillam, Secretary/Treasurer, Douglass

Tracy Lane, Chaplain, Pineland

Alyssa Daffron, Mascot

Number of attendees present: Hemphill 41, Pineland 62

Number of departments present:12/10 Departments

Old Business: The East Texas District conducted our 2 semi-annual Conventions and none of our regular annual training schools or conferences since the 2018 SFFMA Conference & Convention, held in Arlington, TX. Our 2018 Fall Convention was conducted on Oct. 13th with the Hemphill FD hosting in Hemphill, TX. 41 Members attended from 12 departments.

Our 2019 Spring Convention was conducted on April 6th with Pineland FD hosting in Pineland, TX. 62 Members attended from 10 departments. Our 2019 Fall Convention will be October 12th hosted by the Joaquin FD, in Joaquin, TX.

New Business: Exploring opportunities to expand members, organize area training again.

Submitted by: Dennis M. Gifford, outgoing ETFFMA Secretary & 2001 ETFFMA Past President

GULF COAST/ TRI-RIVERS DISTRICT

Meeting Location: Santa Fe Fire and Rescue

Meeting Date/Time: September 8, 2018 5:30 pm

District Board Members: Mark Lancaster, President

Jim Cargile, First Vice President

Joel Sumrall, Second Vice President

Andy Van Dine, Past President

Anthony Cargile, Secretary

Mike Richter, Treasurer

Makenzie Anderson, Mascot

Number of attendees present: 34

Number of departments present: 13

SFFMA Board Present: Donny Boggs

Chuck Richardson

Richard Van Winkle

Certification Committee Andy Dexter
and Kendall Hunting

Old Business: Frankie ABC reported on 501 C 3 status. Charters are in and funds needed to complete the process. Motion made by Tommy Anderson for \$350.00 to be paid in order to achieve the status. Second by Steve Donnelly. Motion Passed.

New Business: Rex Klesel moved to combine checking accounts of both districts into one. Second by Tommy Anderson. Motion Passed. SFFMA Report by Richard Van Winkle

Submitted by: Anthony Cargile, Secretary

Jim Cargile, First Vice President

Meeting Location: Cat Spring Fire Department

Meeting Date/Time: March 17, 2019 5:30 pm

District Board Members: Mark Lancaster, President

Jim Cargile, First Vice President

Joel Sumrall, Second Vice President

Andy Van Dine, Past President

Tito Rodriguez, Chaplain

Anthony Cargile, Secretary

Mike Richter, Treasurer

Makenzie Anderson, Mascot

Number of attendees present: 34

Number of Departments present: 11

SFFMA Board Present: Donny Boggs

Chuck Richardson

Brent Allen

Kylie Mapels

Certification Committee Andy Dexter
and Kendall Hunting

Old Business: Jim Cargile presented Gary Williams an award for his dedication to the Certification Board for 37 years.

Frankie ABC reported on 501 C 3 is completed.

Several questions and concerns about the certification program were addressed by Kendall Hunting and Andy Dexter.

New Business: Firefighter of the year nominations were received from Gulf Coast for Chief Rex Klesel of Alvin. Tri-Rivers did not have any nominations. EMS responder of the year did not have any nominations from either district. President Lancaster entertained a motion to buy a new gavel. The district has been without a gavel for several years now. Frankie ABC second the motion, passed. Poster Contest- Election of officers- a motion was made by Steve Donnelly and second by Rex Klesel to elevate the chairs.

Next Meeting Place: Pasadena Fire Department, 923 Shaw st
Pasadena Tx 77506 - September 7, 2019

Submitted by: Anthony Cargile, Secretary

Jim Cargile, First Vice President

HILL COUNTRY DISTRICT

Meeting Location: Ballinger, TX (88th Fall Convention)

Meeting Date/Time: October 6, 2018, 9 a.m.

District Board Members: President - Todd Clary, Ballinger FD

1st Vice President - Curly Wagner, Menard FD

2nd Vice President - Vacant

3rd Vice President - Vacant

4th Vice President - Vacant

Secretary - Brent Allen, Ballinger FD

Chaplain - Billy Sherman, Winters FD

Number of attendees present: 29

Number of Departments present: 5

SFFMA Board Present: 5

Guest: 2

Total Attendees Present: 41

Old Business: President Todd Clary asked for old business the motions presented at the Spring convention in April were brought from the table.

The proposal from Article V - Meetings was brought up for a vote. A motion to accept the proposal as stated was made by Sonora VFD, by Fire Chief Rick Cearley and seconded by Menard VFD by Curly Wagoner and vote was brought forth and the motion carried.

The next proposal from Article IV - Officer brought forth by a motion to accept the proposal as stated was made by Ballinger VFD by Fire Chief Clyde Kresta and seconded by Sonora VFD by Firefighter Maray Cearley and a vote was brought forth and the motion carried.

The last items for vote was the creation of a 501c3 for the Association. A motion to create the 501c3 was made by Sonora VFD by Rick Cearley, Fire Chief and seconded by Winters VFD Mark Bridgeman, Fire Chief. A vote was brought forth and the motion carried, with one vote against.

New Business: After some discussion, the officers of the association were elevated.

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| President | Curly Wagoner | Menard VFD |
| 1st Vice President | Dustin Kresta | Ballinger VFD |
| 2nd Vice President | Reba Davis | London VFD |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Brent Allen | Ballinger VFD |
| Chaplain | Billy Sherman | Winters VFD |

Meeting was adjourned, and the auto L.A.C.K. class was begun.

Submitted by: Brent Allen, Secretary

Meeting Location: Ballinger, TX (89th Spring Convention)

Meeting Date/Time: April 6, 2019, 9 a.m.

District Board Members:

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| President | Curly Wagoner | Menard VFD |
| 1st Vice President | Dustin Kresta | Ballinger VFD |
| 2nd Vice President | Reba Davis | London VFD |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Brent Allen | Ballinger VFD |
| Chaplain | Billy Sherman | Winters VFD |

Number of attendees present: 25

Number of Departments present: 3

SFFMA Board Present: 1

Guest: 4

Total Attendees Present: 34

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Letters of potential candidates were read to the membership.

A motion to approve the minutes from October 6, 2018 was made by Mike Shuler and a second by Jeremy Estep and the motion carried.

An election to select a Firefighter of the Year was held with two candidates present - Jim Wright from Menard and Robert Langston from Ballinger, with Robert Langston being selected as the Firefighter of the Year for 2019.

The next meeting will be in Menard, Texas at the Menard Fire Station in the spring.

The Memorial Service was held, with three names

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Carlos Ruiz | Ballinger | April 4, 2019 |
| Henry Davis, Sr. | London | November 1, 2018 |
| Karl Owings | London | March 16, 2016 |

Next meeting will be in Menard with date to be announced.

Resolution #1

Whereas the Hill Country Fireman's Association meeting this the 6th day of April 2019, in the Community of London, be it therefore resolved the member departments wish to thank the City of Menard, the Menard Fire Department, for hosting the Pre-Convention meeting.

Resolution #2

Whereas the Hill Country Fireman's Association meeting this the 6th day of April 2019, in the Community of London, be it therefore resolved

the member departments wish to thank the Community of London, the London Fire Department, and anyone else giving a helping hand in hosting the Spring 2019 Convention meeting of the HCFA.

Resolution #3

Be it resolved that this the 6th day of April 2019, the London Fire Department, will place the Memorial Wreath on the grave of Henry Davis, Sr.. Be it further resolved that this will be to remember all firemen who are no longer with us. Whereas we wish to recognize and honor the dedicated service of these firemen which we will never forget.

Therefore this 6th day of April 2019, let this be done.

A motion to accept the resolutions as stated was made by Ballinger and seconded by London and the motion carried.

Letters from Casey Johnston (running for Mascot) and Curtis Brown (running for 4th Vice President), who are running for selection of offices of the SFFMA were read.

With no other business to conduct, a motion to dismiss was made and second was made, the motion carried. Meeting was adjourned and a training class was held.

Submitted by: Brent Allen, Secretary

MID-WEST TEXAS DISTRICT

160th Meeting(Fall), Oct 13, 2017 in Baird

Meeting Location: Baird, Texas; Baird Activity Center

Meeting Date/Time: 10-13-2018 13:30hrs

District Board Members:

President Randy Teague, Lake Coleman VFD

1st Vice Alex Smith, Baird VFD

2nd Vice OPEN POSITION

3rd Vice Robert Wheeler, Hamby VFD

4th Vice Clyde Patterson, Anson VFD

Past President Jason Hull, Rotan VFD

Secretary/Treasurer Kris Hester, Merkel VFD &

Abilene Regional Airport FD

Parliamentarian Clay Deatherage, Albany VFD

Chaplain Danny Campbell, Shackelford County FD

Number of attendees present: 24

Number of departments present: 6

SFFMA Board Present: 1

Sect. Brent Allen

4th Vice Candidate Curtis Brown

Meeting opened by: President Teague

Prayer by: Brent Allen

Presentation of Guests/Past Presidents: 3rd Vice Wheeler

Credentials Report: 1st Vice Smith; 6 departments

Roll Call: S/T Hester

Financials: S/T Hester, Motion to Accept: M.Konczak: , Second by: M.Deatherage, motion passed

Minutes: S/T Hester, Motion to Accept: C.Deatherage, Second By: M.Konczak, motion passed

Old Business

-Parliamentarian Deatherage gave report on status of the District's C&BL proposal for 2018 State Convention, resolution will be submitted again for approval to State for 2019 voting

-1st Vice Smith gave report of State Convention, Arlington June 2018

New Business

-Presentation by AT&T representatives covering the First Net program

-State Sect. Allen gave State Officers' Report

-State 4th Vice Candidate Curtis Brown gave campaign announcement

-Tommy Jacobs of TEEEX gave a report on TEEEX regional activities

-S/T Hester gave report on District's take over of LODD trailer, made a plea for Fire Prevention Poster Contest entries from all departments

-Discussion arose surrounding 'possible compensation' for academy instructors, Board will review and bring a proposal to membership at future meeting

2019 Spring Convention site will be: Hamby VFD

2019 Fall Convention Sites requested: Lake Coleman nominated

Motion by: M. Konczak , second by: A. Smith, motion carried

Motion to adjourn made by M.Konczak, second by M.Deatherage,

Closing prayer by State Sect. Allen, meeting adjourned by President Teague

Respectfully submitted by:

Sect./Tres. Kris Hester

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS DISTRICT

Date: April 6, 2019

Location: Central Community Fire Station
4100 Old Agnes Road
Weatherford, TX 76088

Presided by: District President - Matt Richardson

Called to Order: 1:03 P.M.

Invocation: Jay Atwood

Pledge of Allegiance: Sam Williams

Roll Call of District 16 departments present: Eastland, Olden, Rising Star, Cresson, Tolar, Long Camp, P.K. East, Aledo, Central Community, Greenwood, Peaster, Poolville, Springtown, Somervell.

Josh Constancio delivered the District Report and read a letter, submitted to the SFFMA by the Mid-West Texas District. The letter details proposals to amend the State Constitution & By-laws by modifying the process of registering and campaigning for office, shortening the state conference by one day, and holding elections on the day of the tradeshow. Sam Williams made motion that District 16 support these proposed changes and send a letter to that effect. The motion was seconded by Randy Ingram. Motion passed. Josh Constancio read a letter from Curtis Brown, who is running for 4th Vice President of SFFMA Executive Board. Josh Constancio talked about the Fire Chief Development Program and encouraged anyone interested to apply. Proposed amended by-laws for District 16, were distributed to the members present for consideration. Motion by Brian McKean to adopt the new by-laws and second by Sam Williams. Motion passed.

Election of officers:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| President | Matt Richardson |
| 1st Vice President | Darrel Brennon |
| 2nd Vice President | David Pruitt |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Sam Williams |
| Chaplain | Jay Atwood |

Appointments:

Certification Coordinator Josh Constancio

Executive Committee:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Parker County | Randy Ingram |
| Hood County | Ray Wilson |
| Palo Pinto County | Cody Lee |
| Somervell County | Matt Peelman |
| Eastland County | Travis Woodley |

Meeting adjourned at: 1:50 PM

NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT

Meeting Location: Anna Middle School, Anna, TX

Meeting Date/Time: March 30, 2019

District Board Members:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| President | Neil Sims |
| 1st Vice President | Brian Burkhart |
| 2nd Vice President | Jeff Ballew |
| 3rd Vice President | Nathan Huhn |
| 4th Vice President | John Robinson |
| Immediate Past President | Charlie Smith |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Melissa Robinson |
| Chaplain | Tim Easley |
| Zone Certification Coordinator | Brad Hargrove |
| Mascot | Lexi Sims |

Number of attendees present: 47

Number of departments present: 12

SFFMA Board Present:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| President | Mike Richardson |
| 2nd Vice President | Richard Van Winkle |
| 4th Vice President | Donny Boggs |

Old Business: None

New Business: Prayer & meal

Memorial Service

Vendor Recognition

SFFMA Board Announcements/Reports:

Certification Report - Jeff Ballew

Attendance Trophy - Edgecliff Village Fire Dept

Poster Contest Awards - Ken Isom, Chrissy Rogalski, Diana Robinson

Memorial Scholarships - 1st Bardwell Area FD, Alternate Red Oak FD

Fall Meeting - Everman, TX (Sept 21st or 28th)

NTFFMA - 4th VP Nomination - John Robinson (winner) & Brooke Postrano

Chaplain Nomination - Tim Easley

Presentation of new officers - SFFMA 2nd VP Richard Van Winkle

Past President Presentation to Charlie Smith

Door Prizes & Adjourn

Submitted by: Melissa Robinson, Secretary/Treasurer

NORTHEAST TEXAS DISTRICT

On Saturday, September 29th, 2018 at 1:00 pm the Fall Convention of the Northeast Texas Firemen's Association was called to order by President Steve Heim. Mascot Kayley Johnston the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chris Osborn was the only District Officer not Present. President Heim introduced, Rayford Gibson, Chief of Tatum Volunteer Fire Department who welcomed everyone to Tatum. 1st Vice-President Jerry Taylor gave the response. President Heim introduced the SFFMA, President Mike Richardson who went over the state report.

Chaplain Rayford called the names of SFFMA PP Bryan Rickert and Mr. M. V. Hudson from the New London VFD and NETFFMA PP Marc Nichols presided over the bell ceremony for our fallen firemen.. Mike Fennell went over the latest Northeast Texas Fire School information. President Heim introduced Curtis Brown who is running for 4th Vice-President SFFMA and Secretary F. Jim White read a letter from Casey Johnston who is running for Mascot of the SFFMA. Secretary, Jim White called roll and twenty nine departments (29) and seventy four (74) members were in attendance. He awarded the distance plaque to Coke Pleasant Grove (84 miles) and the attendance plaque to Gilmer, with six fire persons registered. He also asked for a motion to accept the minutes as typed. Motion by Glenn Johnson and second by Ray Jackson to accept the minutes as printed. Motion Passed

Old business:

Article 9, Constitution and By-laws change

Change the Spring meeting from the first Saturday in April to the first Sunday in April and the Fall meeting will stay the last Saturday in September. (2nd reading) Motion Passed.

New Business:

Motion by Nancy Hall to continue our VFIS insurance for next year, second by Andy Killian. Motion passed. Motion by Glen Johnson to add Jerry Taylor, Incoming President, Jim White, Secretary, and Rayford Gibson, Assistant Secretary to the First National Bank CD signing card and same to Gilmer National Checking account. Motion passed. Motion made by Glen Johnson to elevate the chairs, second by Danny Hurt, Steve Heim to Past President, Jerry Taylor to President, Chris Osborn to 1st Vice-President, F. Jim White Secretary/ Treasurer, and Rayford Gibson Asst-Secretary/Treasured/Chaplain. Motion Passed

Marc Nichols presented his Past President Badge to Steve Heim, Steve presented his President's badge and the gavel to President Jerry Taylor, Jerry presented his badge to Chris Osborn, President Taylor asked for nomination for 2nd Vice-President, and Kelcey Trotty, Longview fireman was elected by acclamation. President Taylor asks for nominations for mascot and Kayley Johnson was elected mascot by acclamation After the passing of the badges, and elections, Mike Richardson, President of the SFFMA Executive Board led the oath of office to the new board. Glen Johnson auctioned the fireman's helmet that had been won by SFFMA State Mascot Kylie Maples' mom and donated back for auction, 4th Vice President Donny Boggs of the SFFMA Executives Board winning bid of \$200.00 dollars was collected for MDA and given to Kylie. President Taylor announced that FFOY and EMSOY applications were due to the secretary by March 1st of 2019. President Taylor announced that the Spring meeting of 2019 will be Texas Eastman plant and the Fall meeting will be in Jackson Heights, Spring of 2020 will be in Gilmer, Fall meeting of 2020 will be in Flint Grisham.

On Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 12:33 pm (early because of severe storms in area) President Jerry Taylor, called the Spring Convention of the Northeast Texas Firefighters Association to order. Chris Osborn gave the opening prayer. President Taylor asked Past-President Glenn Johnson of Center Fire Department to lead the congregation in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chris Osborn welcomed everyone to the spring convention, All officers were in attendance except Assistant Secretary/Chaplain Rayford Gibson.

Mike Fennell made a report on the spring school and told of a new class forcible entry would be added to the 2020 school. President Mike Richardson and 2nd Vice-President Richard Van Winkle were in attendance and Mike went over the legislative report he and J. P. Laney had been working the halls of state capitol for the SFFMA. He said that Beaumont, Houston, and Galveston had summated bids to be voted on in Longview. Secretary, F. Jim White called roll and nineteen (19) departments and thirty five (35) delegates were in attendance. Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept as typed was made by Glen Johnson, Center, and seconded by Dale Patterson, Chapel Hill, Motion passed. The attendance award went to Sabine with three (3) in attendance and the distance award went to Center, (65 miles). The Jack Taylor Scholarship winner to the SFFMA state convention is Joe Penta, TXU and Amber Hill, Gilmer was alternate. Motion by Past President Ray Jackson, Kilgore and was seconded by Past President Steve Heim, Ore City to destroy the ballots. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Dennis Gage passed the boot among the firefighters for MDA as NETFFMA always makes a donation to the incoming mascot at the Wednesday business meeting. The firefighters made a donation of \$200.76 to start the 2019-20 year off right. Curtis Brown, Chief at Dalhart, Thom Jones Chief at Madisonville are running for 4th Vice-President, and Casey Johnson from Wild Peach is running for Mascot, all gave a short speech. President Taylor, announced the fall meeting will be in Jackson Heights, Spring of 2020 will be in Gilmer, Fall meeting of 2020 will be in Flint Grisham. Motion to adjourn by Glenn Johnson, second by Bob Kennon. Motion carried.

Jerry Taylor /by: F. Jim White

President, NETFFMA 2019

PANHANDLE DISTRICT

On May 18th, 2019 at 8:38 a.m. the Panhandle Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association held the 128th annual convention at the Fairly Group Club in Amarillo, Texas. There were 120 members and vendors present.

Officers president were President Matt Warren, 1st Vice President Craig Jusiak, 2nd Vice President Billy Tidwell, 3rd Vice President Joe Koch, 4th Vice President Jason Neill, Chaplain Mike Kendrick, Mascot Elizabeth White, Sweetheart Hannah Brown, Past Present Morris Locknane, and Secretary Treasurer Wiley Harp. Sweetheart Hannah Brown and Mascot Elizabeth White led Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America and the Pledge of Allegiance to the State of Texas. Chaplain Mike Kendrick gave the invocation.

Potter County Fire Chief Richard Lake and Randall County Captain Joe Koch welcomed the attendees to the City of Amarillo. 2nd Vice President Billy Tidwell provided the response to the welcome.

President Warren recognized the State SFFMA Officers in attendance: President Mike Richardson, 1st Vice President Tim Smith, and 2nd Vice President Richard Van Winkle, and Past President Paul Hamilton

and Past President Henry Perry.

2nd Vice President Billy Tidwell thank the Sod Poodles for the use of their facility and the City of Amarillo Visitors Bureau for their donation.

Marlee Demots from The Hearing Center at Quail Creek presented a program on the service that they provide for First Responders on hearing loss.

Henry Perry the TEEEX regional manager for the Panhandle discussed the TEEEX Fire Extension Program. He introduced instructors for these region and reminded members that they are available to teach classes in this region.

Paul Hamilton secretary for the 100 Club of Amarillo gave an update on the 100 Club and their activities in this area. He also announced that there would soon be a 100 Club in Lubbock.

Sweetheart Hannah Brown asked to address the convention and thank the PFFMA for electing her and thanking the association for all that, it has done for her.

Past President Morris Locknane recognized Past Presidents of PFFMA in attendance.

SFFMA President Mike Richardson provided an update of State legislative activities, the state convention in Longview and the new SFFMA Growthzone software.

Curtis Brown candidate for SFFMA 4th Vice President asked for support at the state convention.

Landon Flisowski candidate for SFFMA Mascot asked for support at the state convention.

Secretary Wiley Harp read a letter from Casey Johnston candidate for SFFMA Mascot asking for support at the state convention. Secretary Wiley Harp read a letter from the Mid-West district asking for support for their By-Laws change.

3rd Vice President Joe Koch recognized the Auxiliary President and Jerry Locknane introduced Auxiliary Officers present at the convention.

1st Vice President Craig Jusiak recognized the Past Firefighters of the Year in attendance. 2016 Firefighter of the Year Curtis Brown announced that the 2019 Firefighter of the Year is Kelly Vandygriff from Abernathy fire department.

4th Vice President Jason Neill recognized the Past EMS Providers of the Year in attendance. 2017 EMS Provider of the Year Scott White announced that the 2019 EMS Provider of the Year is Tim Schafer from Hartley fire department.

Nominations:

President Matt Warren announced that Robert Gordon from Dalhart fire department and Tim Tee from Dalhart fire department had submitted letters announcing their intent to run for 4th Vice President of SFFMA. Each candidate addressed the convention.

President Matt Warren opened the floor for nomination for Secretary/Treasurer. Chelsey Sheppard from Ralls Fire Department was nominated. Chelsey addressed the convention. No other nomination were made and David Jusiak made a motion to elect Chelsey by acclimation. The motion was seconded all voted in favor and the motion passed.

President Matt Warren opened the floor for nomination for Chaplain. DeNisa Brown nominated Kelly Vandygriff from Abernathy fire department. Angela Kendrick nominated Mike Kendrick from Potter County fire department. Each candidate addressed the convention.

President Matt Warren opened the floor for nomination for Mascot. Angela Kendrick nominated Mathew Jusiak from Potter County fire department. No other nomination were made and Curtis Brown made a motion to elect Matthew by acclimation. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor of the motion. Mascot for 2019 is Mathew Jusiak.

President Matt Warren opened the floor for nomination for Sweetheart. David Jusiak nominated Emma Jusiak from Potter County fire department. Scott White nominated Elizabeth White. Each candidate addressed the convention. Voting was held for 4th Vice President, Chaplain and Sweetheart. Secretary Wiley Harp presented the Secretary/Treasurer report and read the minutes of the 127th Convention. DeNisa Brown made a motion to correct the minutes to read that Hannah Brown was elected Sweetheart and Elizabeth White was elected Mascot. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor of accepting the treasurer report and minutes.

Committee Reports:

President Warren asked if there were any committee reports.

Parliamentarian - No action, Finance - No action.

Memorial - Chaplain Mike Kendrick asked that department notify the Chaplain of any deaths during the year so that they could be remembered during the Memorial Service.

Poster - No action, By-Laws - No Action, Sergeant At Arms - No Action, Registration - No Action, Gold - No issues.

Contest Events - Games will begin at 2:00 pm at the Randall County fire station #1.

Training:

Training was held and 18 firefighters attended the training this year. If there are any suggestions for next year's training please get with the committee with suggestions. A motion was made from the floor to accept the committee reports and a second was received. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Report on Elections:

President Warren announced that Robert Gordon was elected 4th Vice President, Kelly Vandygriff was elected Chaplain and Emma Jusiak was elected Sweetheart. A motion was made from the floor to move up officers, a seconded was received. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed. A motion was made from the floor to install the new officers, a second was received. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

SFFMA President Mike Richardson swore in new officers.

President Craig Jusiak, Potter County

1st Vice President Billy Tidwell, Ralls

2nd Vice President Joe Koch, Randall County

3rd Vice President Jason Neill, Hoover

4th Vice President Robert Gordon, Dalhart

Chaplain Kelly Vandygriff, Abernathy

Secretary/Treasurer Chelsey Sheppard, Ralls

Past President Matt Warren, Briscoe

Sweetheart Emma Jusiak, Potter County

Mascot Matthew Jusiak, Potter County

Chaplain Kelly Vandygriff lead the closing prayer. President Craig Jusiak made closing remarks and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Wiley Harp - Secretary/Treasurer

PERMIAN BASIN DISTRICT

(no report available)

RED RIVER DISTRICT

Meeting Location: Henrietta Volunteer Fire Department
916 W Spring St.
Henrietta, Texas 76365

Meeting Date/Time: April 27, 2019 12:00 pm

District Board Members:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| James Daniel Carr | Secretary |
| Jeremy Jennings | President |
| Cory Brinkley | 1st Vice President |
| Dennis Bailey | 2nd Vice President |
| Michael Albert | 3rd Vice President |
| Nicholas Long | 4th Vice President |
| James Daniel Carr | Secretary |
| Paul McBroom | Chaplain |
| Kaci Berryman | Mascot |
| Rodney Ryalls | Immediate President |

Number of attendees present: 40+

Number of departments present: 11 (Alvord, Burkburnett, Cameron Gardens, Decatur, Friberg-Cooper, Greenwood-Slidell, Henrietta, Iowa Park, Sunset, Wichita West, Petrolia)

SFFMA Board Present:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Tim Smith | 1st Vice President |
| Chuck Richardson | 3rd Vice President |
| Donny Boggs | 4th Vice President |
| Brent Allen | Secretary |

Items not on New or Old Business, we recognized our Firefighter and EMS Responder of the Year as well as the Poster Contest Winners. We were presented the SFFMA Report from the Executive Board Members. We also heard from committee members.

The Midwest District's Proposal was discussed and the group was advised to read the full proposal.

Old Business:

Discussion:

Jeremy Jennings - First item is the Spring Fire Protection School. James Carr - The Red River Spring Fire Protection School is May 3-5th in Decatur, just as a reminder. You must register online. That is for us and for TEEEX. HB2604 will cover it if you wish to attend. It is next weekend, so your time is running out. We do have a unique class this year. It helps the firefighter and the spouse learn how to handle the stress associated with our profession. Rodney Ryalls - There is no charge for the class. They can also stay for the social and the live burns.

Rodney Ryalls - There is cost associated with travel to the SFFMA Convention. We have a Red River District student assistance fund. It was set up to help firefighters pay to go to the convention by awarding up to \$500 for qualifying travel expenses. They must be a voting delegate who votes. All you must do is to send a letter to the RRRFFMA stating their need. We then pick who we think is the most in need. Friberg-Cooper received it last year. The deadline this year is June 1st. The Convention is June 21-26th in Longview.

Rodney Ryalls - This year one of our past presidents is the outgoing President for the SFFMA. One of the things he is doing is having a party that is kind of like a hoedown that will have a band. He is paying for it. One of the costs associated with that is \$2500 for the band. It is going to be at the Rowdy Creek Ranch. We would like for the Red River District to pay that expense. We would also like to purchase a custom-made sign for him. Motions were made for both items. All were in favor.

Conclusion: Moved on to

New Business:

President, Jeremy Jennings discussed Wichita Falls Spring School, Wichita Falls Area Relief Fund. Support for President Mike Richardson was discussed and voted on. Guest speakers presented and letters from candidates running for SFFMA Offices were read.

RRFFMA heard from candidates running for office of the SFFMA:

Curtis Brown 4th Vice President

Thom Jones 4th Vice President

Dennis Bailey read letters from the candidates running for Mascot that were not present.

Jeremy Jennings – The next item is the location of our next meeting that is scheduled for July 13th. Does any department want to host the meeting? It must be in a different county. Dennis Bailey- Sunset Fire Department will host it. James Carr – Does 0900 work. All agreed. Past Mascot drew tickets for her MDA Raffle items.

Sunset VFD
118 North State Hwy 101
Sunset, Texas 76270

Conclusion: Meeting adjourned at 13:43

Submitted by:

James Carr
RRFFMA Secretary / Treasurer

SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

(no report available)

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

(no report available)

TRI-RIVERS DISTRICT

(see Gulf Coast District Report)

WINTERGARDEN DISTRICT

Meeting date: September 23, 2018

Meeting was called to order by Billy Chase. The welcome was given by Travis Hall, the Response was given by JD Earls.

The invocation was given by Cory Bradley. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Abby Earls.

Jerry Rust read the minutes from the last meeting and gave the treasury report. Motion made and second to accept, motion passed.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Committee Reports: Jerry Rust spoke about the Fall training in October, 2018. Motion was made and second to elevate the chairs, motion passed.

RACING RESULTS

6 MAN

1. Carrizo Springs 32.62

2. Natalia 37.02

3. Leming 40.00

3 MAN

Natalia 15.75

Carrizo Springs 19.68

Leming 22.94

Bill Zorn Trophy - Pleasanton 15.31

Traveling Trophy - Pleasanton 38.58

Water Polo

1. Pleasanton

2. Natalia

The Spring Convention was held in Castroville, TX on March 24, 2019. The Mascot and Sweetheart left the Pledge of Allegiance.

Billy Chase called the meeting to order and Cory Bradley gave the invocation. Tim Kelly (Mayor) gave the welcome and Aaron Martinez gave the response.

Jerry Rust had the first roll call with 10 towns and 50 firefighters in attendance. Jerry Rust read the minutes from the Fall Convention and gave the treasury report. Motion made and second to accept. Motion passed.

Mike Richardson, President of SFFMA gave a report on Certification and membership growth. He spoke about how the videos were helping make it easier to input training.

Mike Richardson talkedd about the hotels and upcoming activities in Longview.

Intermediate

- 1. Mia Lopez - Natalia
- 2. Weston Banks - Natalia
- 3. Anna Leiva - Natalia

Middle

- 1. Caleb Crouch - Natalia
- 2. Chloe Helgeson - Natalia
- 3. Isabella Montalvo - Natalia

Jr. High

- 1. Chamee Yanez - Natalia

High School

- 1. Christian Dossey - Natalia
- 2. Cassandra Dossey - Natalia

RACING RESULTS

6 MAN

- 1. Pleasanton 26.33
- 2. Natalia No time

3 MAN

- Natalia 13.45
- Pleasanton 14.26

Bill Zorn Trophy - Natalia 13.45

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Billy Chase | President |
| JD Earls | 1st Vice President |
| Patricia Rust | 2nd Vice President |
| Aaron Leal | 3rd Vice President |
| Andrew Martinez | 4th Vice President |
| Jerry Rust | Secretary |
| Cory Bradley | Chaplain |
| Abby Earls | Sweetheart |
| Brayden Moreno | Mascot |

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas
as amended on June 27, 2018

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - Name

Section 1. This Association shall be known as the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Section 1.1. The definition of firemen as it is used in this Association shall pertain to either male or female members of any organized fire department.

ARTICLE II - Membership

Section 1. The various classifications of membership in this Association shall consist of **Active, Sustaining, Organization, Life, Honorary Life, Honorary, Individual and International.**

Section 2. **Active membership** shall consist of regularly organized fire departments, emergency services districts, rescue & first responder organizations and 9-1-1 emergency medical service providers of the State, whether civilian, military, or industrial; the regularly appointed or duly-elected fire marshals of any city, town, county, or political subdivision in the state; the state fire marshal and assistant fire marshal; representatives of each of the respective district associations; county associations; rescue organizations, all of which now exist or are hereafter formed or created and which are recognized by the Executive Board of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Section 3. **Sustaining membership** shall be limited to the manufacturers, jobbers, distributors, and/or sales personnel of fire apparatus, equipment and accessories, and companies having a genuine interest in the betterment of the fire service of Texas. Membership under this classification may exhibit products, equipment, and goods and services at the annual training conference and convention. This type of membership is available when qualified as provided in the by-laws of this association.

Section 4. **Organization membership** shall be limited to state agencies, nonprofit entities, support organizations, fire marshal offices, and 16 district organizations having a genuine interest in the betterment of the fire service of Texas. Membership under this classification is available when qualified as provided in the by-laws of this association.

*Section 5. **Life membership*** shall be limited to all past presidents of the Association who shall, upon expiration of their respective terms of office, be and become life members. They shall be entitled to vote on all matters.

*Section 6. **Honorary life membership*** shall be granted to such persons whom the Association wishes to honor in recognition for distinguished, meritorious, or long, faithful service to this Association, and who are or have been active members of a member department of this Association. Election to honorary life membership under this section shall be subject to the provisions of the bylaws of this Association. They shall be qualified to vote only, provided they are otherwise qualified under the provision of this constitution and by-laws.

*Section 7. **Honorary membership*** shall be confined to those who are not members of any member department in this State Association, but whom the Association desires to honor in recognition for distinguished service to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas or to the fire departments of the State. Election to honorary membership shall be subject to the provisions of the bylaws of this Association. They shall not be entitled to vote, nor shall they be eligible to hold office.

*Section 8. **Individual membership*** in this Association shall be available to any person interested in the support of the fire service. Individual memberships are separate and apart from active memberships. Each individual member shall receive, upon paying annual dues, a membership card. Said membership shall entitle the holder hereof to vote upon matters coming before the delegate body of the State Association at the Annual Training Conference and Convention if they are a "Delegate". Failure to pay individual membership dues shall terminate that individual membership in the State Association, but shall in no matter affect the membership or status in or of the individual's local fire department or company.

*Section 8.1. **Individual membership*** is required to participate in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' of Texas Certification Program.

*Section 9. **International membership*** in this association shall be available to any person interested in the support of the fire service, not residing or volunteering in the fire service in Texas or other U.S. states. International memberships are separate and apart from active memberships. Each individual international member shall receive, upon paying annual dues, a membership card. Only international members that belong to a dues-paying department or organization can participate in the association International Certification Program. Said membership shall not entitle the member cardholder to vote upon

matters coming before the delegate body of the state association at the annual training conference and convention. Said membership shall follow the guidelines and specifications set forth by the association International Committee. Failure to pay individual membership dues shall terminate that international membership in the state association.

Section 9.1 International membership is required to participate in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' of Texas International Certification Program (available in Spanish).

ARTICLE III - Officers

Section 1. The elected officers of this Association shall consist of a president; a first, second, third, and fourth vice president; a secretary; an assistant secretary; and a chaplain.

Section 1.1. Every elected officer of this Association, except chaplain, shall be from the active or retired membership of a recognized active member department of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas and shall be endorsed by the Executive Board of a District Association that is recognized by the Executive Board of the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, where they currently live or formerly lived.

Section 2. The foregoing officers and a mascot shall be elected annually by the Association at the last session of the last day of the Annual Training Conference and Convention, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors shall be elected and qualified. Their duties shall be as defined by the bylaws of this Association.

Section 3. The elected officers of this Association, plus the immediate past president, shall constitute the Executive Board and Board of Directors, a majority of which shall be a quorum for transaction of business.

Section 3.1. Voting members of the Executive Board shall consist of the president, first vice president, second vice president, third vice president, fourth vice president, secretary, assistant secretary, chaplain, and immediate past president.

Section 4. The executive director of this Association shall be selected, employed and salary or compensation set by a majority vote of the Executive Board present and voting. The Executive Director, for reasonable cause or failure to perform assigned duties, may, upon majority vote of the Executive Board present and voting, be discharged and a successor appointed by an Executive Board order or resolution.

ARTICLE IV - Standing Boards

Section 1. The Legislative Board shall consist of the Executive Board of this Association whose appointment to this Board shall be automatic upon their election to office. This Board will work closely with the working committee SFFMA General Purpose Committee (T*FLAG).

Section 2. The Volunteer Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Certification Board shall consist of not less than 16 members, nor more than 25 members, with each serving a term of four (4) years. The Board shall be organized so that the appropriate numbers of members' terms expire each year, and the incoming president shall appoint or reappoint members to the expired terms.

Section 3. The Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board: A program of industrial fire training shall be established in the state of Texas on a voluntary basis, and said program be administered through the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association to become effective June 18, 1980.

Section 3.1. Board Members: That a board of not less than 12 or more than 20 voting members, in addition to any non-voting members appointed by the president of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association to administer the program. The board will be known as the Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board.

- A) 1. Voting members to be appointed to serve four-year terms on the board.
2. Nonvoting members to be appointed to serve terms as approved by a majority of voting members of the board.
- B) 1. The members appointed to the first board will draw for one-, two-, three-, and four-year terms, and thereafter equal number of voting members will be appointed on rotating years.
- C) 1. Voting board members will be appointed by the president from among the representatives offered by participating industrial members, and confirmed by a majority of the SFFMA Executive Board members present and voting.
2. Nonvoting board members will be appointed by the president from among individuals submitted and confirmed by a majority of voting members of the board and confirmed by a majority of the SFFMA Executive Board.

ARTICLE V - Working Committees

Section 1. The following committees shall be appointed by the in-coming president with approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting and shall serve until the next Annual Training Conference and Convention adjourns or their specific term expires.

- a. Credentials Committee
- b. Finance Committee
- c. Memorial Committee
- d. Racing Committee
- e. Poster Committee
- f. Constitution & By-Laws Committee
- g. Sergeant-at-Arms Committee
- h. Training/Speaker Selection Committee
- i. Driving Contest Committee
- j. Exhibitors Committee
- k. Firefighter & EMS Responder of the Year Committee
- 1. SFFMA General Purpose (T*Flag)
- m. Golf Tournament Committee
- n. Site Selection Committee
- o. International Committee
- p. EMS Committee
- q. Fire Marshals' Committee
- r. Health and Safety Committee
- s. Combination Department Committee
- t. As deemed necessary

ARTICLE VI - Delegates

Section 1. Each regularly organized fire department shall be entitled to five delegates at the Annual Training Conference and Convention, provided that all sections to the by-laws have been complied with.

Section 2. All delegates must be current individual dues paying members, except Industrial members. Industrial Members must be from a participating Industrial Organization to be delegates, and each participating Industrial Organization can have up to five voting delegates. No member delegate shall be allowed to be represented by proxy.

Section 3. Lists of delegates from each member department or organization shall be furnished to the secretary upon registration at the Annual Training Conference and Convention.

Section 4. Each regularly organized district, county, fire service organization and rescue association, and Fire Marshals' Office as recognized by the Executive Board shall be eligible for one delegate to the Annual Training Conference and Convention upon payment of the proper annual dues to this Association.

ARTICLE VII - Recognition of SFFMA District Associations

The following SFFMA districts or associations and the counties they serve have long been mutually established and accepted and are hereby officially recognized by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas as the regional conduits of this association.

1. Central Texas- Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Coryell, Falls, Gillespie, Hamilton, Lampasas, Lee, Limestone, Llano, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Travis, Washington, Williamson

2. **Guadalupe-** Aransas, Bee, Bexar, Caldwell, Calhoun, Comal, DeWitt, Fayette, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays, Jackson, Karnes, Lavaca, Refugio, Victoria, Wilson
3. **Tri-Rivers-** Austin, Colorado, Matagorda, Wharton
4. **South Central-** Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleburg, Live Oak, Nueces, San Patricio
5. **Rio Grande Valley-** Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Willacy, Zapata
6. **Gulf Coast-** Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Waller
7. **East Texas-** Anderson, Angelina, Freestone, Hardin, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Leon, Madison, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler, Walker
8. **Northeast Texas-** Bowie, Camp, Cass, Cherokee, Delta, Fannin, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Hopkins, Hunt, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Panola, Rains, Red River, Rusk, Smith, Titus, Upshur, Van Zandt, Wood
9. **North Texas-** Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Grayson, Hill, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Rockwall, Tarrant
10. **Red River-** Archer, Baylor, Clay, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Knox, Montague, Wichita, Wilbarger, Wise, Young
11. **Mid-West Texas-** Borden, Callahan, Fisher, Garza, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Kent, Lynn, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall, Taylor, Throckmorton
12. **Panhandle-** Armstrong, Bailey, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Cochran, Collingsworth, Cottle, Crosby, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Donley, Floyd, Gray, Hale, Hall, Handsford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hockley, Hutchinson, King, Lamb, Lipscomb, Lubbock, Moore, Motley, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Wheeler
13. **Permian Basin-** Andrews, Brewster, Crane, Culberson, Dawson, Ector, El Paso, Gaines, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Presidio, Reeves, Terrell, Terry, Upton, Ward, Winkler, Yoakum
14. **Hill Country-** Brown, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Crockett, Glasscock, Irion, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reagan, Runnels, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Tom Green
15. **Wintergarden-** Atascosa, Bandera, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Kendall, Kerr, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Zavala

16. North Central Texas- Comanche, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Stephens

17. Texas Emergency Services Industrial Board - All industrial-based emergency service providers

ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

Section 1. The constitution of this Association may be amended at any Annual Training Conference and Convention by two-thirds of the delegates present and voting.

Section 2. Any amendment to the constitution of this Association presented at the Annual Training Conference and Convention must be prepared in writing and submitted to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee prior to the close of the Annual Training Conference and Convention planning conference held in January of each year. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee will review, study, edit, with the submitting body's approval, and publish and distribute with the committee's recommendations for approval or rejection to all district secretaries on or before March 15. The proposed amendment will then be presented to the Annual Training Conference and Convention by the committee for final action by the voting delegates, and all such amendments must be submitted by a recognized district association or the Executive Board of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I - Annual Meetings

Section 1. The Association shall meet during June of each year and shall begin with a business session on Sunday, beginning with an afternoon session and continuing for three days.

Section 2. In the event of no selection, or if any selected Annual Training Conference and Convention host city should fail, refuse, or for any reason be unable to accommodate the annual meeting of this Association at the time so fixed, then the place of holding the annual meeting and the date thereof may be changed or fixed at some other place or time by a majority vote of the Executive Board of this Association.

ARTICLE II - Duties of Officers

THE PRESIDENT:

Section 1. The President shall preside over the meetings of this Association and perform all duties usually incumbent upon presiding officers of deliberative bodies.

Section 2. The President shall appoint, with the approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting, the membership of all Working Committees and Standing Boards.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the President, with approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting, to fill by appointment any vacancy or position of any Officer, except that of 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, 4th Vice President, and Secretary, who for any cause may be unable to fulfill or failure to perform the duties incumbent upon that particular office.

Section 4. The President shall appoint, with the approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting, a member to the Advisory Board of the State Firemen's Training School. No member shall be eligible for appointment to more than three consecutive four-year terms.

Section 5. The President, with approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting, shall submit a list of three (3) to five (5) nominees for each vacancy to the Governor every odd number year for appointment to the State Board of Trustees of the Statewide Volunteer Fire Fighters' Retirement Fund.

Section 5.1. The State Board of Trustees of the Statewide Volunteer Fire Fighters' Retirement Fund is composed of nine (9) members, of whom six (6) Trustees must be members of the Fund, and three (3) Trustees must be persons who have experience in the fields of finance, securities investment, or pension administration.

Section 6. The President, with approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting, shall submit a list of not fewer than three (3) nor more than ten (10) nominees to the Governor every odd number year for appointment to the Fire Fighters' Pension Commissioner.

Section 7. The President shall appoint, with approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting, the state director and an alternate state director to the National Volunteer Fire Council. The state director and the alternate state director must be an active or retired member of a fire department.

THE VICE PRESIDENTS:

Section 1. In the case of absence, resignation, or death of the president, the Vice Presidents shall preside in the order in which they were elected, and act as presidents pro tem. They shall preside over such sessions of the Annual Training Conference and Convention as are assigned them and perform such duties as assigned them by the president.

THE SECRETARY:

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep minutes of all Executive Board meetings and a record of the proceedings of this Association's Annual Training Conference and Convention, and perform such duties as assigned by the president.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

Section 1. The Assistant Secretary shall assist the secretary in the discharge of that office's duties, and in the absence of the secretary for any cause, perform the duties of the secretary and any duties as assigned by the President. The Assistant Secretary shall present at the Annual Training Conference and Convention any resolution offered to the Association from a recognized district and or the Executive Board.

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Section 1. The Executive Director shall receive and receipt all revenues and monies received by this Association and shall make an annual report thereof at the Annual Training Conference and Convention each year, and in such reports render an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements handled by the office. The Executive Director shall attach to such report a statement from the bank or other institution wherein such funds are deposited, showing the cash balance of deposit by the Association, as near the first day of June preceding the Annual Training Conference and Convention as possible.

Section 2. The Executive Director shall perform such activities of the Association as may be required by the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Executive Director and all staff members that have check signing authority shall give an indemnity bond in a sum not less than \$100,000 and all other staff members will be \$25,000. Said bond to be executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Texas and approved by the Executive Board of the Association. The premium of such bond is to be paid by the Association.

Section 4. The Executive Director shall keep an accurate alphabetical list and roll of the departments paying annual membership dues or assessments of individual members paying dues, and of the districts and other organizations including sustaining members paying dues

or assessments, and shall present a report thereof to the secretary and Finance committee of the Association for their use as provided in the by-laws of the Association.

Section 5. The Executive Director shall be responsible for all files and property belonging to the Association.

Section 6. The Executive Director shall be provided with the services of the personnel, the furniture, equipment, supplies, postage, and travel expenses necessarily expended in the performance of the duties of that position.

Section 7. The Executive Director shall withdraw funds of the Association for the depository bank, selected by the Executive Board of the Association upon official Association check forms, signed by the Executive Director.

Section 7.1. The Executive Director or any elected officers of this Association may not use any asset or property of this Association for the purpose of borrowing money or collateral without the approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting at a called meeting and approval of a corporate resolution with like resolution recorded in the Executive Board minutes.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Section 1. The President and Executive Director of this Association shall be required to make written reports at the Annual Training Conference and Convention. Other officers may be required to report at the request of the President.

ARTICLE III - Duties of Standing Boards

Section 1. **LEGISLATIVE BOARD:** It shall be the duty of this committee to study and take necessary action on such legislative matters as may come to their attention; to initiate and promote such legislation as may be necessary to preserve and promote the best interests of the firefighters of Texas.

Section 2. The members of the **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S AND FIRE MARSHAL'S CERTIFICATION BOARD** shall meet and select from their membership a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and assistant secretary.

Section 2.1. Meetings of the board may be called either by the chairman or by the written request of five (5) members. The meetings of the board may be called at such times and places as deemed necessary.

Section 2.2. In order to conduct business, a majority of the members must be present.

Section 2.3. The board shall be responsible for certification of all volunteer certification coordinators.

Section 2.4. The board shall set, update, and publish the minimum standards for volunteer firefighter and fire marshal certification.

Section 3. THE TEXAS INDUSTRIAL EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD: A program for industrial emergency services training shall be established in the State of Texas on a voluntary basis, and said program administered through the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association to become effective June 18, 1980.

Section 3. 1. Board Members: That a board of not less than 12 or more than 20 voting members in addition to any non-voting members be appointed by the president of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association to administer the program. The board will be known as the Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board.

A)1. Voting members will be appointed to serve four-year terms on the board.

2. Non-voting members will be appointed to serve terms as approved by a majority of voting members of the board.

B) 1. The members appointed to the first board will draw for one-, two-, three-, and four-year terms, and thereafter equal number of voting members will be appointed on rotating years.

C) 1. Voting board members will be appointed by the president from among representatives offered by participating industrial members, and confirmed by a majority of the SFFMA Executive Board members present and voting.

2. Non-voting board members will be appointed by the president from among individuals submitted and confirmed by a majority of voting members of the board and confirmed by a majority of the SFFMA Executive Board.

Section 3.2. Procedures of the Board

A) Meetings

1. Board shall meet at such times and places in the State of Texas as it deems proper.

2. Meetings shall be called by the chairman upon his/her own motion, or upon the written request of five (5) voting members. The minimum number of meetings will be once per year.

3. Meetings shall be announced at least one week in advance by written notice to all board members, and to the executive director. Emergency meetings can be called by the chairman with 24-hour notice to all board members and the executive director.

B) Quorum. A majority of voting members shall constitute a quorum.

C) Order of Business. Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail for all meetings.

D) Officers

1. Officers of the board shall consist of a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and assistant secretary.
2. The board shall elect its officers from the appointed voting members at its first meeting and thereafter at its first meeting succeeding new appointments to fill regular terms.

E) Industrial Advisory Board. The officers of the board shall constitute an "Industrial Advisory Board" to advise the Executive Board of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association on matters pertaining to industrial fire protection.

Section 3.3. Training Implementation Method

A) General Statement.

1. It shall be clearly understood that programs suggested by the board are minimum programs wherever possible. Nothing in the provisions shall limit or be construed as limiting industrial members from establishing additional programs.
2. Resource materials for minimum industrial fire training program shall be established from materials as outlined in appropriate international fire service training manuals, the NFPA Industrial Fire Brigade Training Manual, the API Industrial Fire Service, or other equal material as approved by the board. Each participating installation or organization shall verify, to the board, that such manuals and resources have been provided.

B) Objectives.

1. The objective of the board is to promote the competence of industrial emergency services programs.
2. The board has the authority:
 - a) to develop and administer a voluntary program for industrial emergency services training in the State of Texas. Programs developed by the board are subject to confirmation by the SFFMA Executive Board.
 - b) to approve industrial emergency services training and educational programs as meeting the minimum criteria expressed by the board, and
 - c) to outline more comprehensive training programs.

C) Definitions:

1. Certain definitions are used in describing the training programs and related subjects suggested by the board.
2. Definitions used include:
 - a) "**Board**" is the Texas Industrial Emergency Services Board.
 - b) "**Chairman**" is the presiding officer of the board.
 - c) "**Fire Chief**" is the head of an industrial fire department.
 - d) "**Training Coordinator**" is the individual designated by his/her management to be in charge of the industrial emergency services

training programs.

- e) **"Trainee"** is any member of an industrial department who is participating in training programs.
- f) **"Department"** is an industrial fire department or fire brigade.
- g) **"School"** is any college, school, university, academy, or local training program which offers fire service training and includes within its meaning the combination of course curriculum, instructors, and facilities.
- h) **"Industrial Member"** is an industrial business establishment belonging to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association.
- i) **"Participating Industrial Member"** is an industrial member that has a current certificate of participation from the board.
- j) **"Executive Director"** is the executive director of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.
- k) **"Executive Board"** is the Executive Board of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Section 3.4. Participation Requirements

1. Each industrial organization or installation that wishes to become a participating industrial member must be a current members of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, and employ a minimum of 10 employees at the specific installation. To meet the minimum 10 employee participation requirement, several installations, each having less than 10 employees and belonging to a common business organization, may be grouped together to qualify as a single participating industrial member.

2. Each participating industrial organization or installation shall remit to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association the annual membership fee of \$500 per department.

The Association shall dedicate \$20 of the industrial organization membership dues to a building fund to be used exclusively for the construction, purchase, renovation, repairs or addition to a building or for the purchase of land.

3. Industrial members shall not be required to pay individual membership dues for any employee(s).

Section 3.5. Minimum Programs.

1. Although the board strongly endorses and supports adequate physical qualifications, this matter is left to each industrial installation or organization.

2. All training will be conducted and/or supervised by a training coordinator for that particular organization or installation who has been approved by the industrial member company's management. The training coordinator can designate any member from that department as an instructor. The board has the power to revoke program approval if they feel that the training is not being

conducted in accord with the approved program.

3. Training may be received from any school, college, university, academy, or local training program which offers fire service training and is recognized by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association; additionally, training may also be provided by in-house programs under the supervision of the training coordinator.

4. Any personnel change in training coordinator's or fire chief's position will be sent to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association office in Austin for updating of records.

Section 3.6. Recognitions.

Certificates of participation will be issued to each industrial installation or organization that has a training program approved by the board. These certificates will be reissued annually so long as the industrial member continues to conduct training programs in accord with the minimum standards of the board.

ARTICLE IV - Duties of SFFMA District Associations

Section 1 - Each SFFMA district association shall communicate and coordinate the activities and business of the state association on the local level, assisting departments and their members in their areas.

Each SFFMA district association shall provide a written record or report of their district activities at the SFFMA annual conference and convention each year.

Each SFFMA district association shall submit a list of eligible candidates at the SFFMA annual conference and convention each year to serve on each state committee to assist and perform the business of the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

ARTICLE V - Duties of Working Committees

Section 1. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of the Credentials Committee to report immediately after the Association convenes for the purpose of passing on the credentials of delegates and their membership dues, and to make their annual report to the Association as soon as they have completed their duties.

Section 2. FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Finance Committee shall review all bills paid by the Association, review the books of the executive director, and review the ensuing year's proposed budget, making recommendations if needed, and report in full regarding the finances of the Association at the annual meeting. This committee shall recommend to the Executive Board registration fees for the Annual Training Conference and Convention.

Section 3. MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: The Memorial Committee shall compile a list of deceased members of this Association for the past year and make all arrangements for holding an appropriate memorial service

during the Annual Training Conference and Convention. The Memorial Committee may present the memorial resolution to the delegates for their approval during the memorial service.

Section 4. RACING COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to consult the host city committee on races, to cooperate in the selection of suitable sites and hydrants for the annual Association pumper races, to see that all necessary equipment is available and in place for the running of such races, and that the races are conducted in accordance with the Association's pumper racing rules.

Section 5. POSTER CONTEST COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to receive from the delegates of the several district associations of this State the winning posters from their respective districts, to see that they are suitably displayed by division, in an area or room assigned to them and to select a competent staff judge and report the first, second, and third place winners in each of the kindergarden, primary, middle, intermediate, junior high, and high school divisions at the final session of the Annual Training Conference and Convention.

Section 6. CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE: The Constitution and By-Laws Committee will review, study, and edit all proposed changes with the submitting body's approval, publish and distribute with the committee's recommendation for approval or rejection to all District Secretaries on or before March 15. All proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws will be presented at the Annual Training Conference and Convention by the committee for final action by the voting delegates. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee is charged with the duty of keeping the Constitution and By-Laws current and correct and in keeping with the goals of the Association. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee may submit changes to the Constitution and By-Laws that are a clarification of an Article or Section, correct grammar or misspelling, and submit any Article or Section at the direction and approval of the Executive Board.

Section 7. ANNUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP/ SPEAKER SELECTION COMMITTEE:

This committee shall consist of one (1) member from the Certification Board, Fire Marshal Committee, EMS Committee, TIESB Board, TEEX, International and an Executive Board Liaison.

Section 7. 1. It shall be the duty of this committee to select speakers and training workshops for the upcoming Annual Training Conference and Convention.

Section 7.2. This committee shall contact potential speakers, collect speaker proposals, select workshops (speakers) for the upcoming Annual Training

Conference and Convention and work with the Association Meeting Planner on scheduling selected workshops.

Section 7.3. The president shall appoint such subcommittees for this committee as deemed necessary to perform the duties of the committee.

Section 8. DRIVING CONTEST COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to work closely with the host liaison on driving contest requirements, the selection of a suitable site for the annual Association Driving Contest, to see that all necessary equipment is available and in place and that the contest is conducted in accordance with the Association's Driving Contest rules.

Section 9. EXHIBITORS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to work closely with host liaison, exhibitors, and the State Office in planning and layout of the indoor/outdoor exhibit area.

Section 10. FIREFIGHTER & EMS RESPONDER OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to review all nominees, and select the State Firefighter of the Year and the State EMS Responder of the Year.

*Section 11. SFFMA GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE (T*FLAG):* It shall be the duty of this committee to work closely with the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association Executive Board to study and take necessary action on such legislative matters as may come to their attention; to initiate and promote such legislation as may be necessary to preserve and promote the best interests of the firefighters of Texas.

Section 12. GOLF COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to work closely with the host liaison on the golf tournament requirements, and the selection of a suitable site for the annual Association Golf Tournament.

Section 13. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to assist as necessary and at the request of the President.

Section 14. SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE: It will be the duty of the committee to receive proposals, visit all prospective sites, and negotiate with the appropriate facilities. All proposals will be reviewed and the top three (3) sites shall be visited. All sites shall be visited before the Annual Conference in June, so recommendations could be made to the Executive Board. Then the Executive Board shall recommend three (3) sites for the Convention Delegates to vote for acceptance or rejection. The Executive Board shall have their recommendations submitted by the end of the Annual Conference so prospective sites can be placed on the ballots for the Annual Conference & Convention Proceedings. This Committee shall consist of the Executive Director, the Association

Meeting Planner, two (2) representatives from the current Executive Board and two (2) Past Presidents who shall be appointed by the incoming Association President after the Annual Conference and Convention Proceedings.

Section 15. EMS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to coordinate and represent the SFFMA Members and Member Departments that provide Emergency Medical or First Responder Services regarding matters of legislation, training, recruitment and EMS Business and Leadership certifications.

Section 16. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to coordinate and represent non-U.S.-based SFFMA Members and Departments regarding matters of training, recruitment and certification.

Section 17. FIRE MARSHALS' COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to meet and confer as often as needed in order to:

1. Provide ample opportunities for exchange of fire safety information, code enforcement and technical developments.
2. Review and discuss methods to foster closer cooperation and a better understanding between governmental or industrial fire service organizations, law enforcement agencies, news media, the insurance industry, local fire prevention committees, and state and local agencies.
3. Encourage high professional standards of conduct among Fire Marshals and to continually strive to eliminate all factors which interfere with administration of fire prevention and life safety advancements for the common good.
4. Unite for mutual benefit those public officials and private persons to promote fire prevention and life safety in Texas.
5. Work closely with the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association Executive Board and the **SFFMA GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE (T*FLAG)** to study, make recommendations and take necessary action on such legislative matters as may come to their attention to initiate and promote such legislation as may be necessary to preserve and promote the best interests of the firefighters and citizens of Texas.

Section 18. HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to meet and confer as often as needed in order to:

1. Provide recommendations and guidelines for actions to help eliminate firefighter injury and death by increasing firefighters' health, wellness and fitness.
2. Provide recommendations and guidelines for safety considerations to fire departments in managing fire department duties and

responsibilities.

3. Work with regulatory groups to help review, investigate and assist in determining the factors surrounding line of duty deaths, line of duty injuries, and near-miss situations. Take that information and provide lessons learned to the association members to help prevent further, similar events.
4. Committee members will be comprised of subject-matter experts in health and safety.

Section 19. COMBINATION DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to meet and confer as often as needed in order to:

1. Determine and make recommendations for education, training, and support for departments that have both volunteers and career members.
2. The committee makeup shall be chief officers of combination departments or career chiefs serving combination departments.

ARTICLE VI - Membership Dues

Section 1. A regularly organized fire department within the meaning of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association shall consist of any combination of personnel with apparatus properly manned and officered, with sufficient personnel to operate such apparatus in the prevention and extinguishment of fire.

Section 2. The dues of each department shall be \$200 per department per year.

The Association shall dedicate \$20 of the department membership dues to a building fund to be used exclusively for the construction, purchase, renovation, repairs and addition to a building or for the purchase of land.

Section 3. Each regularly organized fire department and industrial member shall be required to pay the Association annually the dues herein provided. The dues year runs concurrent with the fiscal year beginning January 1 through December 31, effective January 1.

Section 4. Fire Marshals offices, when duly certified by their political sub-division, shall be eligible to membership in this Association on the basis of \$200 annual membership dues.

The Association shall dedicate \$20 of the organization membership dues to a building fund to be used exclusively for the construction, purchase, renovation, repairs and addition to a building or for the purchase of land.

Section 5. The regularly organized district, county, rescue association,

industrial and other fire service organization or individuals herein after recognized by the Executive Board of this Association shall be eligible for membership in this Association upon payment of \$200 annual dues.

The Association shall dedicate \$20 of the organization membership dues to a building fund to be used exclusively for the construction, purchase, renovation, repairs and addition to a building or for the purchase of land.

Section 6. Sustaining members of the Association, which includes manufacturers, jobbers, distributors, and/or sales personnel of fire apparatus, equipment, and accessories, may obtain sustaining membership in this Association upon payment of \$200 annual dues. Only sustaining members will be eligible to contract for exhibit space at the Annual Training Conference and Convention.

The Association shall dedicate \$20 of the sustaining membership dues to a building fund to be used exclusively for the construction, purchase, renovation, repairs and addition to a building or for the purchase of land.

Section 7. Life members shall be exempt from the payment of all Association dues and registration fees.

Section 8. Honorary life and honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of Association dues, but shall not be exempt from payment of the Annual Training Conference and Convention registration fees.

Section 9. Any person interested in the fire service may become an individual member of this Association by the payment of annual dues in the amount of \$50 per year which includes individual membership and allows for the eligibility of any other benefits which may be available to individual members.

The Association shall dedicate \$20 of the individual membership dues to a building fund to be used exclusively for the construction, purchase, renovation, repairs and addition to a building or for the purchase of land.

Section 9.1. The magazine subscription is included as a part of all membership dues categories.

Section 9.2. The individual membership is required to participate in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' of Texas Certification Program.

ARTICLE VII - Honorary Life and Honorary Members

Section 1. All names presented to this Association for honorary life or honorary membership in this Association shall be referred to a

committee of three, appointed by the president, for the purpose of approving or disapproving such membership. Such names shall not be acted on until such committee reporting thereon shall have been named to the Association.

Section 2. An official badge and plaque shall be awarded to the past presidents of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII - Nominations of Officers and Selection of Meeting Place

Section 1. Nominations of all officers, mascots and meeting places shall be made at the hour designated on the official Annual Training Conference and Convention program, during the first (1st) business session of the annual conference.

Section 2. The selection of the host city for the Annual Training Conference and Convention of this Association shall be made at least three years in advance of the meeting, beginning with the conference and convention in the year 2005.

Section 2.1. The selection for the host city for the Annual Training Conference and Convention of this Association shall be contingent on the host city to provide ample indoor exhibit area.

Section 2.2. There shall be a Site Selection Committee consisting of two representatives from the Executive Board, the Executive Director, the Meeting Planner and two Past Presidents, appointed by the association President.

Section 2.3. The Site Selection Committee shall visit prospective sites, negotiate with the appropriate facilities and bring the recommendations to the Executive Board for approval and then to the Convention delegates for a vote of acceptance or rejection.

Section 3. After nominations of the respective officers and mascot have been declared, it shall be the duty of the recording secretary to have prepared and printed ballots showing the names of the nominees for such officers in duplicate; one ballot being marked "first ballot" and the other being marked "second ballot."

ARTICLE IX - Voting and Elections

Section 1. Each properly accredited delegate shall be entitled to one vote at the annual meeting.

Section 2. All elections held by this Association shall be by secret ballot with a majority vote deciding.

Section 3. Ballots shall be distributed to the Delegates by the Sergeant-

at-Arms at such time as their attendance cards are taken up at the last session. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall act as tellers during balloting, the president shall appoint a committee to count all ballots and return a total count to the secretary.

Section 4. Each delegate entitled to vote shall indicate his/her choice by placing either an "X" or check mark (p) in the "Box" on said ballot next to the name of the person for the respective office, and the city for the place of the next meeting.

Section 5. Vacancies of any elected position, except that of Assistant Secretary, Chaplain, and 4th Vice President, shall be filled by elevation of the chairs in the order they were elected. Vacancies of elected positions of Assistant Secretary, Chaplain, and 4th Vice President may be filled by appointment on interim basis at the discretion of the President, with the approval of the majority of the Executive Board present and voting. Any interim appointment shall expire on the last day of the next Annual Training Conference and Convention.

ARTICLE X - Reporting Deceased

Section 1. All members are requested to submit a list of their deceased fellow firemen to the chairman of the Memorial Committee, not later than May 31, preceeding the Annual Training Conference and Convention.

ARTICLE XI - Appeals and Grievances

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall constitute a board of appeals to determine any question submitted to them by a member, company, department or organization or delegate thereof.

ARTICLE XII - Amendments

Section 1. The by-laws of the Association may be amended at any Annual Training Conference and Convention by two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting.

Section 2. Any amendment to the by-laws of this Association presented at the Annual Training Conference and Convention must be prepared in writing and submitted to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee prior to the close of the Annual Training Conference and Convention planning conference held in January of each year. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee will review, study, edit, with the submitting body's approval, and publish and distribute with the committee's recommendations for approval or rejection to all district secretaries on or before March 15.

The proposed amendment will then be presented to the Annual Training

Conference and Convention by the committee for final action by the voting delegates, and all such amendments must be submitted by a recognized district association or the Executive Board of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association.

Section 3. In the absence of any specific parliamentary rules or regulations, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern.

GUIDELINES

DRIVING CONTEST

1. Must be registered for convention.
2. Must have a valid driver's license.
3. No contestant will be allowed in truck before contest begins.
4. Contestants must be present at driving course by 7:15 am. Entrance to the Truck Driving Contest will end at 7:30 am.
5. Contestants will be disqualified when any three wheels of the apparatus leaves the course at the same time.
(Duals count as two).
6. Contestants will be penalized five (5) seconds for each time a pylon or barrel is touched. This will be added to the overall time.
7. In case of a tie, a re-run will only be done in the first three places.
8. Decision of the judges is final.
9. This is an equal opportunity contest.
10. At the time you register for the contest, you will draw for the position in which you will drive in the contest.
11. This will be a timed event.
12. Only one (1) driver per town or industry.
13. No one will be permitted to enter the contest after 7:30 am on the date of the contest.
14. Only one occupant per vehicle.
15. Failure to complete course will result in disqualification.
16. Sliding or squealing the truck tires anywhere on the course will be disqualified.

RULES FOR DRIVING CONTEST

1. Contestants will not be allowed to consume alcoholic beverages before or during the contest.
2. The contestant will be required to wear the seat belts at all times.
3. The contestant is required to handle his/her vehicle in a safe manner and to maintain a normal driving position on the field test course.
4. At the starting line, each contestant shall be given a reasonable amount of time and such assistance as he/she may require to satisfactorily adjust his/her seat and mirrors and get comfortable.
5. The rules and the field course may be subject to change due to the Host City facility.

FIELD COURSE

1. Offset Alley

Objective: To test the drivers' ability to steer, judge distances at all points on the vehicle, and to properly control speed while maneuvering in a continuous forward motion through the confined space simulating the avoidance of parked vehicles or maneuvering through narrow alleys.

Standard Operating Procedure: Driver is required to move through one set of traffic cones, turn right or left and proceed through a second set of traffic cones without touching any of the cones comprising the problem.

Problem Dimension (1): Width between traffic cones in each set - eleven feet (11'). Distance between each set - twenty-four feet (24').

2. Loading Dock

Objective: To test the driver's ability to back his/her vehicle into a narrow space and stop with the rear of the vehicle within a specific distance of the back limits of the space.

Standard Operating Procedure: The driver is required to drive forward past the opening of the simulated dock, position the vehicle and then back into the dock stopping with the rear of the unit within 24 inches of the door. After completing the stop, proceed to the next object (serpentine). You must stop within the line of 0 to 24 inches for a valid score. Anything

out of the 24 inch line will count as a five (5) second penalty on your overall time.

3. **Controlled Cornering** (New 2003 Driving Contest)

Objective: To test the driver's ability to maneuver the vehicle in a controlled manner through sharp corner.

Standard Operating Procedure: Driver is required to move through a set of traffic cones placed in a continuous corner without touching any of the cones compromising the problem.

Problem Dimension: 14 cones, width between cones is 11 feet (11').

4. **The Serpentine**

Objective: to test the driver's ability to maneuver the vehicle in and out of tight places in both forward and backward movement.

Standard Operating Procedure: The driver is required to drive in a figure eight (8) pattern around a line of obstacles. He/she is required to maintain a continuous movement forward and backwards with the only authorized stops being those required to change direction to complete negotiation of the problem.

Problem Dimension: Three (3) barrels in a straight line 32 feet (32') apart (from center to center).

5. **The Stop Line**

Objective: To test the driver's ability to judge the position of his/her front bumper with respect to a fixed line.

Standard Operating Procedure: The driver is required to approach the line moving forward and maintaining a normal driving position. Only one (1) stop is allowed and once stopped, a measurement will be taken. The front bumper of the unit shall be within 24 inches of the required stopping line. There will be no score if the contestant moves his/her vehicle forward or backward after making a stop at approach or at the stop line.

Stop Line: You must stop within the line of 0 to 24 inches for a valid score. Anything out of the 24 inch line will count as a five (5) second penalty on your overall time.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

(Revised September 1, 2010)

SELECTION GUIDELINES

Nominee's department MUST be a member of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

A nominee must hold current individual membership in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Each nominee will be considered on a point system to determine the three finalists. The area to be considered are:

1. Leadership abilities including: *Leadership positions held, Work knowledge, Communications, Creativity and Innovation, Attitude, Interaction with others*
2. Dedication to training and/or introduction of new and innovative training methods
3. Involvement in SFFMA, both state and district level
4. Community involvement, both church and civic
5. Acts of heroism in a fire-related act or act of bravery
6. Accomplishments/awards received
7. Certifications held
8. Letters of Recommendation (no more than 4, please)
9. Pictures may be submitted (no more than 4, please)

All nominations must be submitted to local Districts by a fire department on or before the District's Spring meeting. Submissions must be received with a letter from the fire department and signed by Fire Chief, Assistant Chief or President.

One nominee from each District should be submitted in a sealed envelope to the state SFFMA office no later than the 4th Monday in May. Submissions must be received with a letter from the District and signed by the District President or Secretary.

The state SFFMA office will log in the submissions as received and will leave the submissions unopened. The FFOY committee will meet during the last week of May to open the submissions and to select the three finalists based on the above criteria. The nominees will be notified of the results.

The three finalists will be interviewed by the FFOY committee on Saturday morning at the state convention. All nominees will be recognized and the winner will be announced on Sunday at the 1st Business Meeting. All submissions will be returned to the Districts after the state convention.

EMS RESPONDER OF THE YEAR

SELECTION GUIDELINES

Nominee's department or agency MUST be a current active member of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Nominee must be a current individual member of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

A nominee could be considered because of past heroism in EMS-related act, act of bravery, dedication to training or introduction of new and innovative training methods.

Leadership abilities to be considered are:

1. work knowledge
2. communications
3. creative ability
4. innovation
5. attitude
6. interaction with other people

Community involvement considered, either church or civic.

A nominee should be considered for the committees he/she may have chaired or served on and how these committees functioned under his/her guidance.

Nominees will be considered on a point system, giving points for their contributions in the above various areas.

There will be a personal interview conducted with the top three finalists.

To win the State award as EMS Responder of the Year, nominees do not have to be an agency officer or chief.

All nominations for EMS Responder of the Year must be submitted to a local District Association, on department or agency letterhead and signed by the department or agency chief officer or executive, assistant chief or executive and/or department or agency President.

The district offices will conduct submissions of District nominations to the SFFMA State Office. Submission of winning nominees must be on a district letterhead, and/or signed by the President or Secretary of the district.

One nomination from each District President/Secretary shall be submitted to the SFFMA State Office by fax, email, or postal mail by the 3rd Monday in May.

Copies of Certificates and pictures may be included (but no more than four (4) of each.

GARY TILTON MEMORIAL FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST RULES

As revised by committee, February 2018

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: INSTRUCTION ON RULES

This contest is open to all students in grades Pre K through 12 enrolled in any school (public, private, parochial, etc.) or home schooled.

The following grades will fall into six divisions:

Kindergarten Division - Grades Pre K, K.

Primary Division - Grades 1, 2.

Intermediate Division - Grades 3, 4.

Middle Division - Grades 5, 6.

Junior High Division - Grades 7, 8.

High School Division - Grades 9,10,11,12

The poster must be original and may be on any phase of fire prevention and/or fire safety. Only individual work by the student, and one entry per student will be accepted. Posters must conform to the following description: Size of poster: 14 inches by 22 inches.

Kind: Any art medium including painted, cut-outs, pen and ink, crayons, chalks, pencils, computer graphics, but not limited to these.

NO objects over one half inch in height are to be placed on the poster.

NO live matches may be used on the poster.

NO glass may be used in the poster.

The following information must be placed in a sealed envelope attached to the back of the poster. Inside the envelope on a card or piece of paper, insert:

- a. Name of student
 - b. Name of school
 - c. Address of school
 - d. Grade of student
 - e. Name of fire department
 - f. Name of district association
- On front of envelope: division only

All posters must contain full information and conform to size to avoid disqualification.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All fire departments and/or fire marshal's offices that are active in the Fire Prevention Poster Contest and are members of the different district associations and the state association may send their winning posters, by their fire marshal or representative to the district contest.

Each District may select three posters only from each division and send them to the state contest. (District Representative - it is your responsibility to see that all posters entered from your district conform to all the state rules. Posters must be submitted to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association Fire Prevention Poster Committee at the host city before 4:00 p.m., Saturday of convention week. Poster Committee will have a booth at the exhibit hall for all posters to be submitted.

First, Second, and Third place trophies will be given in each division. Three, five or seven judges will be selected by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association Fire Prevention Poster Committee.

The decision of the judges will be announced at the convention. The decision of the judges is final.

All posters will become the property of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association to be exhibited at the state contest. Winning posters will be displayed for one year at the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas - PO Box 1709, Manchaca, TX 78652-1709.

It is the district's responsibility to pick up the last year's winners from the chairman or his representative.

It shall be the responsibility of the chairman to:

Secure trophies for first, second, and third place in each division. Trophies will be presented to the district representative for presentation to the winner. Provide ribbons for each place. Ribbons will be attached to the posters.

The cost of the trophies and the ribbons shall be paid by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association.

Any prize money that is awarded to any poster contestant will be awarded by that company and/or group, and will not involve the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association. All departments and/or districts who have posters in the state contest *must pick them up* Tuesday after the awards banquet. Any poster not picked up at awards banquet will be disposed of that night.

TEXAS FIREMEN PHOTO CONTEST

Anyone can enter the contest *with the exception of professional photographers*; there is no minimum age requirement. If you were in the right place in time to capture that special moment, we encourage you to enter the contest.

All photos submitted will be exhibited at the SFFMA Annual Training Conference and Convention. Some of the winning photographs will also be published in the *Texas Firemen* magazine and *InfoFire* newsletter throughout the year.

CONTEST RULES

- 1) Department membership is not required. (Professional photographers *are not allowed* to submit entries.)
- 2) Photos must be 8" X 10", color or black and white, unmatted, ALL OTHERS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. Please include prints and digital files on a disk.
- 3) You must fill out the Photo Contest Entry Form and attach to the back of EACH photo submitted. Make as many copies of the entry form as needed.
- 4) ONLY three (3) photos PER CATEGORY may be entered. (If more than three per category are submitted, the first 3 will be considered, all others will be disqualified.)
- 5) Entries (printed copies) become the property of *Texas Firemen* magazine and the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, and may be displayed by SFFMA at fire service events.
- 6) A 'Best of Show' plaque will be awarded to the highest scoring photograph. Additionally, 1st and 2nd place plaques will be given in each category based on creative composition, visual appeal, originality and good fire fighting or EMS practices and techniques.

CATEGORIES

- a. Fire-related acts, any variety; *must be "real life" incident*
- b. Lifesaving acts, any variety; *must be "real life" incident*
- c. Education and public safety - any "*staged*" fires such as at fire training schools and anything relating to public safety (presentations at schools, "*staged*" disaster drills, etc.)

PUMPER RACES

CONTEST RULES FOR SIX-MAN PUMPER DRILL

The President shall appoint the chairman and co-chairman, judges, timekeepers, and starter. There shall be three judges, three timekeepers, and a starter. The chairman shall have charge of the drawing for places, getting equipment, and spotting of truck at the hydrant. The chairman of the contest shall not keep time, but must accept the time given him by the timekeepers. All judges and timekeepers shall be entitled to a vote on any questions that may arise. The chairman shall not vote except in case of tie. The racing chairman shall be empowered to replace any committeeman incompetent to perform his duties. The judges shall be three in number: one at the rear of the pumper and one on each side of the pumper. The three timekeepers shall position themselves as near as possible to the 100-foot line painted on the street. Any team trying to win by fraud, deception, or foul play, or in any dishonorable or ungentlemanly way, or shall disobey, infringe upon or evade any of the requirements of these rules and regulations before or during the contest, shall be barred from competing in that race, the judges to decide on the matter. The chairman shall take up all complaints of the contest with the judges, and their findings shall be final. All complaints must be made immediately following a team's run. At the state convention the racing team chairman shall be in charge.

Any team captain or member of his team who violates these rules, automatically disqualifies the team for that particular meet. Sufficient room for the competing teams to operate in during their race shall be maintained by the judge during the race. At the end of the races the data shall be assembled by the secretary, and after the results have been announced, the official copy shall be filed as part of the regular minutes of the meeting.

FIREMEN'S PUMPER DRILL

The working order of the drill shall be as follows: pumper to be set at hydrant, motor silent, hydrant wrench in the seat on the floorboard, wrench will be allowed to extend out of the cab as each team sees fit as it will not fall off (in cab-forward design trucks, judges may designate wrench in a more appropriate position), doors open, hard suction in its regular position if at all possible, unlocked with swivel at either end as team captain desires. After drill has started, position

of pumper cannot be changed. After truck is set, a white line six inches (6") wide and ten feet (10') long shall be painted on the street 100 feet from the tailboard of the truck.

The same nozzle and non-adjustable hydrant wrench shall be used by all teams and these shall be furnished by the host city or the State Association. Enough 2½ inch hose shall be provided so that no sections shall have to be used more than five (5) times during the race. It shall be the duty of the judges to check all couplings to see that they shall be the same for all teams. The judges shall see that all hoses have water run through immediately prior to the start of the race. All connections shall be checked by the judges to see that all are the same for all teams before each team runs, and all caps shall be on the plug, the hard suction intake, and the discharge, and shall be set by the judges prior to each run.

No team member of any competing teams shall make any connection at any position before their team runs. If any doubt arises regarding any coupling or threads, the judges shall try that coupling to the team's satisfaction and that it will operate efficiently.

The number of men in the drill team shall not exceed six (6), or more than one at any position on the truck. Position of men at starting signal shall be as follows: two men on seat of pumper, sitting in natural position, facing forward, one man on each side of truck on running board forward of the hard suction intake, facing truck, and two men on rear platform, body erect, toes forward and, if possible, feet entirely on the running boards. Both men on the side running boards and men on the rear platform may have their heels hanging off the running board in case of the running board being too narrow for the feet to be accommodated, provided the toes shall touch the body of the truck. Men must remain in this position, hands extended overhead, until starting signal is given. After signal is given, the men may work as they choose to accomplish the following: connect hard suction hose to hydrant and to pump. Pull continuously 100 feet (100') of 2½ inch hose from the hose bed and in an approximate straight line to a point where the coupling at end of said 100-foot (100') hose clears the hose bed (not the rear platform), take play pipe nozzle from rear platform of truck and connect to end of hose.

Connect other end of hose to pumper, open valve on hydrant and truck and allow water to flow until a stream emerges from the nozzle. Hose may be extended to its full length as long as the nozzle is behind the 100-foot (100') marker on the street when the water comes through

it. Hose may be loaded as the team desires, but must come out of the hose bed in approximately a straight line. No skid, twist or other loads on the third section of the hose that will permit hose to come out in any other manner than a straight line shall be allowed.

After all the hose has been loaded into the hose bed, the judge shall ask the team captain of the team on the truck if his hose is loaded and ready for inspection. The judge shall set the coupling to be broken in the race after the competing team completes its loading, immediately before the team runs. This coupling shall be set the same for each team. Nobody, except those pulling the hose, shall grab the hose until the coupling at the 100-foot section clears the hose bed (not rear platform). Teams do not have to touch the 100-foot (100') mark on the street, but must pull off 100 feet (100') of the hose. The first pullman off the rear platform shall be the only man to reach into the hose bed.

The time of the contest shall be judged from the time the starting signal is given until a continuous flow (not a surge or spurt) of water passes from the nozzle over the line 100 feet (100') from the rear of the truck. Timekeepers shall clock the time when a continuous stream of water passes over the 100-foot (100') mark. Any team that has a blow-off at any connection or of the nozzle before time is clocked at the 100-foot (100') line shall be given a "no-time" by the judge. All connections must be screwed on in such a manner that it will remain in place without being held on until time is clocked by the timekeepers. Only the team member at the nozzle may be touching the hose with his hands, and person at hydrant may still be turning the hydrant on. Any team deliberately aiming, or tossing hard suction in the eyes of the judge shall be disqualified.

After a team has established a valid time (or received a valid no-time) it shall not be permitted to rerun in the event if the equipment shall become inoperative, replaced or relocated. All teams with valid time or valid no-time shall retain their established times and shall be eligible for all prizes. No team shall be given a second chance to run unless a defect in equipment occurs while said team is running. In such an event, this team shall be allowed to rerun.

Any conditions that may arise that are not covered by these rules shall be governed by the racing committee and one representative of each competing team before races start. After races start any conditions that arise shall be governed by a ruling of the judges only.

The chairman of the subcommittee may be authorized to employ four men to assist in handling hose and equipment during races. The host city shall not be allowed to enter the contest for prize money. Host

team at the state convention will be allowed to compete for trophy. Also, the host city shall run first. Only one team from each city can enter the contest at the state convention. Each district may enter one team at the state convention. No racing team or city shall use the host city's pumper to practice or drill on within a period of three (3) months prior to the convention date. If pumper races are held at night, all positions shall be well-lit (both sides of truck, plug, rear of truck, and hose running area).

The same starting cadence shall be used for every contest-timekeepers ready, judges ready, team ready, hands in air, get set, go (or shoot gun). A set of racing rules shall be given each judge prior to races and shall remain in his possession until after completion of the races. He shall study and fully familiarize himself with these rules before the races start. After the races, he shall return the rules to the pumper races chairman. To be eligible, all team members of competing teams must be active or retired members of an organized fire department, that has paid their state dues, and is in good standing with the state association. All team members must be registered and can participate on only one six-man team at any convention. Departments may combine members to make one team, but the name of the team must be designated at the time of registration. Combination teams will only represent one department or district. The cost of all convention badges, trophies given, or prizes, including pumper races awards, shall be deducted from the total convention entertainment fee derived from convention registration fees paid by delegates and visitors and shall never be paid out of funds collected for annual dues.

CONTEST RULES FOR THREE-MAN PUMPER DRILL

The president shall appoint the chairman and co-chairman, judges, timekeepers and starter. There shall be three judges, three timekeepers, and a starter. The chairman shall have charge of the drawing for places, getting of equipment, and spotting of truck at hydrant. The chairman of the contest shall not keep time, but must accept the time given by the timekeepers. All judges and timekeepers shall be entitled to a vote on any questions that may arise. The chairman shall not vote except in case of a tie.

The racing chairman shall be empowered to replace any committeeman incompetent to perform his duties.

The judges shall be three in number, one at the discharge of the pumper, one at the center coupling set, and one at the nozzle. Three timekeepers shall position themselves as near as possible to the 100-foot line painted on the street. Any team trying to win by fraud, deception, foul play or in any dishonorable or ungentlemanly way or shall disobey, infringe upon, or evade any of the requirements of these rules and regulations before or during the contest, shall be barred from competing in that race; the judges to decide on the matter. The chairman shall take up all complaints of the contest with the judges, and their findings shall be final. All complaints must be made immediately following a team's run, by a racing team captain. Any team captain or member of his team who violates these rules automatically disqualifies the team for that particular meet. Sufficient room for the competing teams to operate in shall be maintained by the judges during the race.

At the end of the races, the data shall be assembled by the chairman, and after the results have been announced, the official copy shall be filed as part of the regular minutes of the meeting.

WORKING ORDER OF THREE-MAN PUMPER DRILL

A fire truck will be selected by the chairman. The fire truck will be fitted with a $\frac{1}{4}$ turn $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch gated valve (if necessary). The fire hydrant will be turned to the "full on" position allowing full water flow to be controlled by the $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch valve. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch valve will include a $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch cap. One hundred feet of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch hose will be laid on the ground in a straight line from the discharge side of the fire truck with all couplings unattached. A straight bore $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch nozzle shall be provided and the same nozzle used throughout the contest by all teams. The location in which the nozzle will be placed is at least one nozzle length from either side of the end of the hose. The number of persons in the drill team shall not exceed three. The team members shall stand perpendicular to the hose, with hands extended overhead and knees locked. Starting positions will be at the truck connection, center connection or nozzle connection. Team members will remain in their starting positions until the starting signal is given. After the starting signal is given, each person must run no less than

50 feet to accomplish the following:

- connect 2½ inch hose to 2½ inch valve on the fire truck
- connect center coupling set
- attach nozzle to end of hose
- charge hose line with water using the 2½ inch valve on the fire truck, producing a full water stream from the nozzle.

It shall be the duty of the judges to check all couplings, the nozzle, and the 2½ inch valve connections to assure that all threads are compatible and will make up easily. The judges shall see that water has been run through the entire hose immediately prior to the start of the race. The hose will be drained of water following the run of each team. The threads at each female connection can be set by team members. This shall be done in a timely manner. No connection shall be made by the team members before run of race. If any doubt arises regarding any coupling or threads, the judges shall try that coupling to the team's satisfaction that it will operate satisfactorily.

The judges shall see that the cap placed on the fire truck is set to the proper position prior to start of each run and also see that all hose couplings are disconnected and that the ends of the hose are folded back not more than five (5) feet. It will be the duty of the judge to set all connections with sufficient slack to make each connection without having to drag the hose from its original position. Team members may approve the amount of slack at each connection.

Participants will be allowed to utilize their feet to kick couplings in position if they so desire, and if by the judgement of the judges this does no damage to any hose couplings or subject anyone to bodily injury.

The same starting cadence shall be used for each contest: timekeepers ready, judges ready, team ready, hands in the air, get set, go (or shoot gun). The time of the contest shall be judged from the time the starting signal is given until a continuous flow (not a surge or spurt) of water passes from the nozzle over the line 100 feet from the rear of the truck. Timekeepers shall clock the time when a continuous stream of water passes over the 100-foot mark.

Any team that has a blow-off at any connection or nozzle before time is clocked shall be given a "no-time" by the judge. All connections must be screwed on in such a manner that they will remain in place without being held until time is clocked by the timekeepers. Only the team member making the nozzle connection may be touching the hose with his hands. After a team has established a valid time

(or received a valid no-time) it shall not be permitted to rerun if the equipment shall become inoperative, replaced or relocated. All teams with valid time or valid no-time shall retain their established times and shall be eligible for all prizes. No team shall be given a second chance to run unless a defect in the equipment occurs while said team is running. In such event, this team shall be allowed a rerun. The host city shall not be allowed to enter contests for money. Host team at the state convention will be allowed to compete for trophy. Also, the host city shall run first.

Only one team from each city can enter the contest at the state convention. No racing team or city shall use the host city's pumper to practice or drill on within a period of three (3) months prior to the convention date.

If races are held at night, all positions shall be well-lit. A set of racing rules shall be given each judge prior to races and shall remain in his/her possession until after completion of the races. He/she shall study and fully familiarize him/herself with these rules before the races start. After the races, he/she shall return the rules to the pumper race chairman.

To be eligible, each racing team member who runs must be registered at the state convention, and be a member of an organized fire department who has paid their state dues and is in good standing with the State Association. Any conditions that may arise that are not covered by these rules shall be governed by the racing committee and one representative of each competing team before races start. After races start, any conditions that arise shall be governed by a ruling of the judges.

TEXAS FIREMEN'S AUXILIARY RACING CONTEST RULES FOR SIX-LADY PUMPER DRILL

First Vice President shall be the racing chairman and she shall appoint a racing committee. The association's general chairman shall appoint the judges, timekeepers and starter, and be in charge of getting the necessary equipment and spotting of truck at hydrant. The Auxiliary Racing Committee shall have charge of drawing of places and verifying eligibility of each team entering. The general chairman and Auxiliary Racing Committee shall not keep time, but must accept the time given them by the timekeepers. All judges and timekeepers shall be entitled to a vote on any questions that may arise. The general chairman shall not vote except in case of a tie.

Members of the racing team shall not be a member of any organized fire department. However, they must be an immediate relative (wife, widow, mother, daughter, sister, or a ward of a legal guardian) of an active or retired member of a regularly organized fire department who pays dues to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association. Only teams whose fire departments have paid state dues and are in good standing with the state association shall be eligible and all racing team members who run must be registered at the convention. Teams representing districts must meet these same requirements in addition to their district paying state dues. Only teams who have paid the state auxiliary dues shall be eligible. Each team must have at least one racing team member or female representative present at the business meeting and draw for places at the end of the business meeting. (Drawing for places may be held prior to business meeting when races are held prior to business meeting - See Section 2 of Article II, TFA By-Laws.)

Only one team from each city can enter the contest at the state convention. Each district may have only one district team enter the contest at the state convention. Members of a district racing team must be from the same district and not participate on any local auxiliary or city team at the state convention. No racing team shall use the host city's pumper to practice or drill on within a period of three (3) months prior to the convention date. Any team trying to win by fraud, deception, foul play or in any dishonorable or unladylike manner, or shall disobey, infringe upon or evade any of the requirements of these rules and regulations before or during the contest, shall be barred from competing in that race, the judges to decide on the matter. The chairman shall take up all complaints of the contest with the judges, and their findings shall be final. All complaints must be made immediately following a team's run. At the state convention, the racing team captains shall be in charge. Any team captain or member of her team who violates these rules automatically disqualifies that team for that particular meet. The judges shall be three in number, one at the rear of the pumper, one on each side of the pumper.

The timekeepers shall position themselves as near as possible to the 100-foot line painted on the street. Sufficient room for the competing teams to operate in during their race shall be maintained by the judges during the race. If pumper races are held at night, all positions shall be well-lit (both sides of truck, plug, rear of truck and hose running area). The host city shall not be allowed to enter contests for prize money. Host team at the state convention will not be allowed to

compete for trophy. The host city shall run first. At the end of the races the data shall be assembled by the secretary and after the results have been announced, the official copy shall be filed as part of the regular minutes of the meeting.

AUXILIARY PUMPER DRILL

The working order of the drill shall be as follows: Pumper to be set at hydrant, motor silent, hydrant wrench in front of seat on the floorboard, wrench will be allowed to extend out of the cab as each team sees fit, as long, as it will not fall off, (in cab-forward designated trucks, judges may designate wrench area in a more appropriate position), doors open, suction hose will be laid from truck to plug with ends folded back about six inches or one foot. The suction hose will be 2½ inch soft cushion. After drill has started, position of pumper cannot be changed. After truck is set, a white line six inches (6") wide and ten feet (10') long shall be painted on the street 100 feet (100') from the tailboard of truck.

The same nozzle and non-adjustable hydrant wrench shall be used by all teams, the nozzle being furnished by the auxiliary and the wrench being furnished by the host city. Enough 1½ inch or 1¾ inch hose shall be provided so that no section shall have to be used more than five (5) times during the race. It shall be the duty of the judges to check all couplings to see that they shall be the same for all teams. The judges shall see that all hose must have water run through it immediately prior to the start of the race.

All connections shall be checked by the judges to see that all are the same for all teams before each team runs, and all caps shall be on the plug, the suction intake, and the discharge, and shall be set by the judges prior to the run.

No team member of any of the competing teams shall make any connection at any position before their team runs. If any doubt arises regarding any coupling or threads, the judges shall try that coupling to the team's satisfaction that it will operate efficiently. The number of ladies in the drill team shall not be less than four and shall not exceed six, or more than one at any position on the truck. Position of ladies at starting signal shall be as follows: two ladies on seat on

pumper, sitting in natural position, facing forward, one lady on each side of truck on running boards forward of the suction intake, facing truck, and two ladies on the rear platform, body erect, toes forward and if possible, feet entirely on running boards. Both ladies on the side running board and ladies on the rear platform may have their heels hanging off the running boards in case of the running boards being too narrow for the feet to be accommodated, provided the toes shall touch the body of the truck. Ladies must remain in this position, hands extended over the head, until starting signal is given.

Note: Should there be less than six (four or five only) members running on the team, position of ladies at starting signal shall be as stated above with the option to drop any two positions.

After signal is given, the ladies may work as they choose to accomplish the following: connect suction hose to hydrant and to pump. Pull continuously 100 feet (100') of 1½ inch or 1¾ inch hose from hose bed and in an approximate straight line to a point where the coupling at the end of said 100-foot (100') hose clears the hose bed (not the rear platform), take nozzle from rear platform of truck and connect to the end of the hose. Connect other end of hose to pumper, open valve on hydrant and truck, and allow water to flow until a stream emerges from the nozzle. Hose may be extended to its full length as long as nozzle is behind the 100-foot (100') mark on the street when the water comes through it.

Hose may be loaded as the team desires, but must come out of the hose bed in approximately a straight line. No skid, twist or other loads on the third section of hose that will permit hose to come out in any other manner than a straight line shall be allowed.

After all the hose has been loaded into the hose bed, the judges shall ask the team captain of the team on the truck if her hose is loaded and ready for inspection. The judge shall set the coupling to be broken in the race after the competing team completes its loading, immediately before the team runs. This coupling shall be set the same for each team. Nobody, except those pulling the hose, shall grab the hose until the coupling at the 100-foot (100') section clears the hose bed (not rear platform). Teams do not have to touch the 100-foot (100') mark on the street, but must pull off 100 feet (100') of hose.

The first pullman off the rear platform shall be the only lady to reach into the hose bed. The time of the contest shall be judged from the time the starting signal is given until a continuous flow (not a surge or spurt) of water passes from the nozzle over the line 100 feet (100') from the rear of the truck. Timekeepers shall clock the time when a continuous stream of water passes over the 100-foot (100') mark. Any team that has a blow-off at any connection or of the nozzle before the time is clocked at the 100-foot (100') line shall be given a "no-time" by the judges. All connections must be screwed on in such a manner that it will remain in place without being held on until time is clocked by the timekeepers. After a team has established a valid time (or received a valid no-time), it shall not be permitted to rerun in the event the equipment shall become inoperative, replaced or relocated. All teams with valid times or valid no-times shall retain their established time and shall be eligible for all prizes. No team shall be given a second chance to run unless a defect in equipment occurs while said team is running, in such event this team shall be allowed a rerun. Any conditions that may arise that are not covered by these rules shall be governed by the racing committee and one representative of each competing team before the races start. After races start, any conditions that arise shall be governed by a ruling of the judges only. The same starting cadence shall be used for every contest - timekeepers ready, judges ready, team ready, hands in the air, get set, go (or shoot gun).

A set of racing rules shall be given each judge prior to races and shall remain in his or her possession until after completion of the races. He shall study and fully familiarize himself with these rules before the races start. After the races, he shall return the rules to the pumper races chairman.

TEXAS FIREMEN'S AUXILIARY THREE-LADY RACING RULES

First Vice President shall be the racing chairman and she shall appoint a racing committee. The Association's general chairman shall appoint the judges, timekeepers, and starter, and be in charge of getting the necessary equipment and setting it up. The Auxiliary Racing Chairman shall have charge of receiving the Convention Racing

Entry Form, drawing of places and to verify eligibility of each team entering. The general chairman and Auxiliary racing chairman and committee shall not keep time, but must accept the time given them by the timekeepers. All judges and timekeepers shall be entitled to a vote on any question that may arise. The general chairman shall not vote except in case of a tie. Members of the racing team shall not be a member of any organized fire department, however; they must be an immediate relative (wife, widow, mother, daughter, sister, or a ward of a legal guardian) of an active or retired member of a regularly organized fire department who pays dues to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association. Only teams whose fire departments have paid state dues and are in good standing with the State Association shall be eligible, and all racing team members who run must be registered at the convention.

Only teams who have paid the State Auxiliary dues shall be eligible. Each team must have at least one Auxiliary member present at the business meeting of the Texas Firemen's Auxiliary. Any team trying to win by fraud, deception, foul play or in any dishonorable or unlady-like manner, or shall disobey, infringe upon or evade any of the requirements of these rules and regulations before or during the contest, shall be barred from competing in that race; the judges to decide on the matter. The chairman shall take up all complaints of the contest with the judges and their finds shall be final.

All complaints must be made immediately following a team's run. At the State Convention, the racing team captains shall be in charge. Working order of the drill shall be as follows: a line at hydrant, runner must be behind and parallel to hose, or runner may run from nozzle; two runners in center facing each other, two sections of 1½ inch or 1¾ inch hose and 1½ inch play-pipe nozzle and one adjustable hydrant wrench. Each runner must run 50 feet (50') before doing anything. Each end of the hose will be folded back 18 inches (18"). The same nozzle and adjustable hydrant wrench shall be used by all teams and these shall be furnished by the host city. Enough 1½ inch or 1¾ inch hose shall be provided so that no section shall have to be used more than five (5) time during the race. It shall be the duty of the judges to check all couplings to see that they are the same for all teams. The judges shall see that all hose must have enough water run through it immediately prior to the start of the race.

All connections shall be checked by the judges to see that all are the same for all teams before each team runs, and all caps shall be on the plug or truck. The fire plug's or the truck's 2½ inch discharge shall be reduced from a 2½ inch to a 1½ inch gated valve. The plug will be opened and gated valve blocked and capped.

No team member of any competing team shall make any connection at any position before their run. The judges can start the coupling, then team member may undo coupling in front of the judge.

All team members can participate on only one three-lady team at any convention. The time of the contest shall be judged from the time the starting signal is given until a continuous flow of water passes from the nozzle.

Any team that has a blow-off at any connection, or of the nozzle before time is clocked, shall be given a "no-time" by the judge. All connections must be screwed on in such a manner that it will remain in place without being held on until time is clocked by the timekeepers. After a team has established a valid time or received a no-time, it shall not be permitted to rerun in the event the equipment shall become inoperable, replaced or relocated. All teams with valid times or valid no-times shall retain their established times and shall be eligible for all prizes. No team shall be given a second chance to run, unless a defect in equipment occurs while said team is running; in such event, this team shall be allowed a rerun.

Any conditions that may arise that are not covered by these rules shall be governed by the racing committee and one representative of each competing team before races start. After races start, any condition that arise shall be governed by a ruling of the judge only.

No racing team or city shall use the host city's equipment or hydrant used in the races within a period of three (3) months prior to convention date. The same starting cadence shall be used for every contest: timekeepers ready, judges ready, team ready, hand in the air, get set, go (or shoot gun).

A set of racing rules shall be given to each judge prior to races and shall remain in his or her possession until after completion of the races. He shall study and fully familiarize himself with these rules before the races start. After the races, he shall return the rules to the pumper racing chairman.

STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION SIX-MAN PUMPER RACES

| Yr. | Teams | | | Winners | | | Time | | |
|------|---------------------|---------|--|--------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | Conv. City | Entered | | 1 st Place | Time | 2 nd Place | | Time | 3 rd Place |
| 1931 | Bryan..... | 22 | | Belton..... | 24.6 | Heame-San Marcos..... | Tie | | 27.2 |
| 1932 | Austin..... | 27 | | Bellville..... | 26.0 | New Braunfels..... | 26.6 | Belton..... | 27.0 |
| 1933 | Corpus Christi..... | 32 | | Cameron..... | 21.8 | Seguin..... | 22.6 | San Marcos..... | 22.2 |
| 1934 | Mineral Wells..... | 44 | | New Braunfels..... | 19.0 | Memphis..... | 19.4 | Claude-Lamesa..... | 19.6 |
| 1935 | El Paso..... | 17 | | Cameron..... | 20.0 | Lamesa-Claude-Schulenburg..... | 19.4 | Tie..... | 21.0 |
| 1936 | Fort Worth..... | 36 | | Yorktown..... | 18.4 | Brownwood..... | 19.4 | Baytown..... | 19.6 |
| 1937 | Port Arthur..... | 28 | | Brownwood..... | 19.0 | Claude..... | 19.8 | Heame..... | 20.0 |
| 1938 | Amarillo..... | 22 | | Harlingen-Childress..... | Tie | | 21.8 | Heame..... | 21.9 |
| 1939 | Harlingen..... | 37 | | San Benito..... | 18.0 | Memphis-Baytown..... | Tie | | 20.0 |
| 1940 | Houston..... | 47 | | Harlingen..... | 17.4 | San Benito..... | 18.0 | Memphis..... | 18.1 |
| 1941 | Wichita Falls..... | 31 | | Vernon..... | 22.0 | Rosenberg..... | 23.2 | Seguin..... | 23.5 |
| 1942 | No Races - | | | No Races - | | No Races - | | No Races - | |
| 1945 | World War II | | | World War II | | World War II | | World War II | |
| 1946 | Waco..... | 29 | | Cameron..... | 19.0 | Dalhart-Brenham..... | Tie | | 19.4 |
| 1947 | Amarillo..... | 28 | | Seguin..... | 21.0 | Harlingen..... | 21.1 | Rosenberg..... | 21.2 |
| 1948 | San Antonio..... | 26 | | Edinburg..... | 22.0 | Bellview-Rosenberg..... | Tie | | 19.0 |
| 1949 | Galveston..... | 39 | | La Grange..... | 27.0 | Elgin-Heame..... | Tie | | 23.0 |
| 1950 | Wichita Falls..... | 35 | | Brownwood..... | 18.3 | Elgin..... | 20.1 | San Marcos..... | 20.2 |
| 1951 | Dallas..... | 42 | | Richmond..... | 16.3 | Edinburg..... | 17.0 | Brownwood..... | 17.6 |
| 1952 | San Antonio..... | 42 | | Taylor..... | 19.0 | Rosenberg..... | 19.1 | Baytown..... | 20.0 |
| 1953 | Austin..... | 45 | | Edinburg..... | 17.3 | Pineland..... | 18.0 | Arlington..... | 19.4 |
| 1954 | San Antonio..... | 43 | | Edinburg..... | 17.7 | Bay City..... | 18.7 | Richmond..... | 18.8 |

STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION SIX-MAN PUMPER RACES

| Teams | | Winners | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| Yr. | Conv. City Entered | 1 st Place | Time | 2 nd Place | Time | 3 rd Place | Time |
| 1955 | Dallas..... | Richmond..... | 17.9 | Seguin..... | 18.9 | Rosenberg..... | 19.0 |
| 1956 | Edinburg..... | Seguin..... | 18.5 | Richmond..... | 19.0 | Belton..... | 20.3 |
| 1957 | Waco..... | Edinburg-Rosenberg..... | 19.6 | Wharton-Granger..... | Tie | | 21.2 |
| 1958 | San Antonio..... | Richmond..... | 17.4 | Baytown..... | 18.5 | Sugar Land..... | 19.3 |
| 1959 | Fort Worth..... | Brownwood..... | 18.0 | Edinburg..... | 18.4 | Richmond-Taylor..... | 18.5 |
| 1960 | Galveston..... | Brownwood..... | 18.5 | Killeen-Rosenberg..... | Tie | | 19.5 |
| 1961 | Austin..... | Rosenberg..... | 19.3 | Alice..... | 19.4 | Killeen..... | 21.8 |
| 1962 | McAllen..... | Rosenberg..... | 17.3 | Alice..... | 17.5 | Edinburg..... | 17.7 |
| 1963 | San Antonio..... | Edinburg..... | 17.9 | Killeen..... | 18.7 | Beeville..... | 19.4 |
| 1964 | Dallas..... | Edinburg..... | 17.1 | Friena-Highlands..... | Tie | | 17.2 |
| 1965 | Laredo..... | Rosenberg..... | 14.9 | Livingston..... | 15.8 | Alvin..... | 16.2 |
| 1966 | Fort Worth..... | Rosenberg..... | 16.5 | McAllen..... | 18.4 | Pasadena..... | 18.6 |
| 1967 | Lubbock..... | Livingston..... | 15.9 | Killeen-Rosenberg..... | Tie | | 17.9 |
| 1968 | Austin..... | McAllen..... | 15.0 | Deer Park..... | 15.2 | Nacogdoches..... | 15.6 |
| 1969 | McAllen..... | Livingston..... | 15.4 | Snyder-Rosenberg..... | Tie | | 16.0 |
| 1970 | San Antonio..... | Livingston..... | 15.4 | West Columbia..... | 15.6 | Rosenberg..... | 15.7 |
| 1971 | Dallas..... | Richmond..... | 17.0 | Rosenberg-Livingston..... | Tie | | 17.2 |
| 1972 | Galveston..... | Channelview..... | 13.0 | Livingston..... | 13.5 | Highlands..... | 13.7 |
| 1973 | Brownsville..... | Channelview..... | 16.8 | Deer Park..... | 17.7 | Livingston..... | 17.9 |
| 1974 | Laredo..... | Livingston..... | 13.5 | Rosenberg-Richmond..... | Tie | | 18.5 |
| 1975 | Houston..... | Rosenberg-LaMarque..... | Tie | | 17.6 | Richmond..... | 18.5 |
| 1976 | Austin..... | Beeville..... | 14.9 | Richmond..... | 15.0 | Eagle Pass..... | 16.0 |

STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION SIX-MAN PUMPER RACES

| Teams | | Winners | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| Yr. | Conv. City Entered | 1 st Place | Time | 2 nd Place | Time | 3 rd Place | Time | | |
| 1977 | Longview | 15 | Rosenberg..... | 15.0 | LaMarque..... | Channelview | 15.9 | Channelview | 16.00 |
| 1978 | Lubbock | 22 | Channelview | 15.10 | Seguin | LaMarque..... | 15.14 | LaMarque..... | 15.22 |
| 1979 | McAllen | 18 | Deer Park | 13.92 | Livingston | Rosenberg..... | 14.05 | Rosenberg..... | 14.28 |
| 1980 | Dallas | 14 | Rosenberg..... | 17.79 | Hearne | Channelview..... | 17.88 | Channelview..... | 18.04 |
| 1981 | San Antonio..... | 21 | Rosenberg..... | 15.26 | Seguin | Hearne..... | 15.36 | Hearne..... | 15.78 |
| 1982 | Abilene..... | 16 | Seguin | 13.94 | Richmond..... | Rosenberg..... | 14.75 | Rosenberg..... | 14.99 |
| 1983 | Beaumont..... | 24 | Rosenberg..... | 16.46 | Harker Heights..... | Livingston..... | 16.68 | Livingston..... | 17.48 |
| 1984 | McAllen | 28 | Rockport..... | 15.08 | Seguin | Highlands | 15.28 | Highlands | 15.35 |
| 1985 | Waco | 17 | Seguin | 15.90 | Rosenberg..... | Brenham..... | 16.47 | Brenham..... | 16.54 |
| 1986 | Austin..... | 19 | Channelview | 14.04 | Deer Park | Marshall | 17.49 | Marshall | 18.00 |
| 1987 | Amarillo | 21 | Fulton..... | 13.11 | Richmond | Beeville | 13.66 | Beeville | 14.73 |
| 1988 | Beaumont..... | 47 | Livingston | 16.04 | Uvalde | Seguin | 16.27 | Seguin | 17.36 |
| 1989 | Arlington..... | 20 | Fulton..... | 18.10 | Conroe..... | Scenic Loop | 18.11 | Scenic Loop | 18.66 |
| 1990 | El Paso | 14 | Fulton..... | 15.70 | Scenic Loop | Rosenberg..... | 16.21 | Rosenberg..... | 17.50 |
| 1991 | Longview | 17 | Conroe..... | 15.47 | Needville..... | Richmond..... | 15.71 | Richmond..... | 16.19 |
| 1992 | McAllen | 17 | Conroe..... | 15.38 | Channelview | Elgin..... | 15.99 | Elgin..... | 16.00 |
| 1993 | Waco..... | 16 | Elgin..... | 16.09 | Fulton..... | Channelview | 16.79 | Channelview | 16.85 |
| 1994 | Beaumont..... | 19 | Kirbyville..... | 18.67 | Needville..... | Elgin..... | 18.92 | Elgin..... | 19.93 |
| 1995 | Abilene..... | 19 | Needville..... | 15.26 | Deer Park | Richmond..... | 15.75 | Richmond..... | 16.30 |
| 1996 | Amarillo | 18 | Conroe..... | 16.87 | Rosebud..... | Hearne..... | 17.02 | Hearne..... | 17.12 |
| 1997 | Galveston | 20 | Richmond | 14.63 | Rosebud..... | Elgin..... | 15.17 | Elgin..... | 16.29 |
| 1998 | Wichita Falls | 17 | Cameron..... | 18.56 | Elgin..... | Conroe..... | 18.57 | Conroe..... | 19.38 |

STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION SIX-MAN PUMPER RACES

| Teams | | Winners | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------|--|-------|------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| Yr. | Conv. City Entered | 1 st Place | Time | 2 nd Place | Time | 3 rd Place | Time |
| 1999 | Lubbock | Deer Park | 16.51 | Rosenberg | 17.18 | Canyon | 17.44 |
| 2000 | Waco | Cameron | 16.09 | Rosenberg | 17.01 | Conroe | 17.69 |
| 2001 | McAllen | Rockport | 16.07 | Cameron | 16.28 | Elgin | 20.26 |
| 2002 | Beaumont | Cameron | 19.80 | Elgin | 20.93 | Deer Park | 21.32 |
| 2003 | Galveston | Rockport | 17.31 | Elgin | 17.87 | Brenham | 20.28 |
| 2004 | Corpus Christi | Races on the flight deck of the Lexington were cancelled due to inclement weather. | | | | | |
| 2005 | Wichita Falls | Scenic Loop | 21.51 | Rosenberg | 22.33 | Center | 24.82 |
| 2006 | Waco | Needville | 19.51 | Central Texas | 23.56 | Brenham | 24.16 |
| 2007 | Amarillo | Gulf Coast | 20.60 | Canyon | 21.30 | Dimmitt | 23.00 |
| 2008 | Beaumont | Brazos County Pct #4 | 21.33 | Cameron | 22.55 | Brenham | 23.41 |
| 2009 | McAllen | Cameron | 19.40 | Brazos County Pct #4 | 21.30 | Needville | 22.40 |
| 2010 | Corpus Christi | Cameron | 20.30 | Needville | 20.58 | Corpus Christi | 22.48 |
| 2011 | Mesquite | Brazos County Pct #4 | 19.90 | Uvalde | 20.90 | Cameron | 21.03 |
| 2012 | Houston | Cameron | 20.69 | Latum-Wesley-Greenvine | 21.47 | Brazos County Pct #4 | 22.23 |
| 2013 | The Woodlands | Gulf Coast District | 22.61 | Past Presidents | 24.82 | Bastrop | 26.24 |
| 2014 | Lubbock | Gulf Coast District | 17.87 | Latum-Wesley-Greenvine | 19.69 | West Carlisle | 20.86 |
| 2015 | Galveston | Races were cancelled due to inclement weather. | | | | | |
| 2016 | McAllen | Latum-Wesley-Greenvine | 24.31 | Milam County | 27.38 | Brenham | 30.18 |
| 2017 | San Marcos | Latum-Wesley-Greenvine | 33.94 | Gulf Coast | 36.20 | Rockdale | 40.15 |
| 2018 | Arlington | Panhandle District | 24.9 | Central Texas District | 25.62 | Gulf Coast | NT |
| 2019 | Longview | No Pumper Races | | | | | |

STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION SIX-WOMAN PUMPER RACES

| Yr. | Teams | | Winners | | | Time |
|------|-------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------|
| | Conv. | City Entered | 1 st Place | 2 nd Place | 3 rd Place | |
| 1954 | | San Antonio | Round Rock | Seguin | Round Rock | 26.3 |
| 1955 | | Dallas | Brownwood | Round Rock | Round Rock | 33.5 |
| 1956 | | Edinburg | Round Rock | Seguin | Round Rock | 26.1 |
| 1957 | | Waco | Round Rock | Granger | Granger | 26.2 |
| 1958 | | San Antonio | Belton | Killeen | Killeen | 20.5 |
| 1959 | | Fort Worth | Alice | Lake Worth | Lake Worth | 21.3 |
| 1960 | | Galveston | Weimer | Round Rock | Round Rock | 20.1 |
| 1961 | | Austin | Alice | Sinton | Killeen | 21.6 |
| 1962 | | McAllen | Port Lavaca | Alice | Killeen | 19.2 |
| 1963 | | San Antonio | Brazoria | Sugarland | Killeen | 21.2 |
| 1964 | | Dallas | Sugarland | Friena | Richmond | 20.2 |
| 1965 | | Laredo | Sugarland | Orange Grove | Richmond | 21.5 |
| 1966 | | Fort Worth | Lampasas | Livingston | LaMarque | 18.4 |
| 1967 | | Lubbock | Snyder | Deer Park | Killeen | 24.0 |
| 1968 | | Austin | LaMarque | Pasadena | Sugarland | 19.9 |
| 1969 | | McAllen | LaMarque | Deer Park | Snyder | 16.6 |
| 1970 | | San Antonio | Deer Park | Deer Park | Richmond | 15.9 |
| 1971 | | Dallas | Deer Park | Channelview | LaMarque | 17.1 |
| 1972 | | Galveston | Channelview | Richmond | Monahans | 16.9 |
| 1973 | | Brownsville | Channelview | LaPorte | Richmond | 17.4 |
| 1974 | | Laredo | Channelview | Rosenberg | Deer Park | 15.4 |
| 1975 | | Houston | Deer Park | Rosenberg | LaMarque | 18.1 |
| 1976 | | Austin | Seguin | LaPorte | Spur | 18.0 |
| | | | | Rosenberg | Deer Park | 15.1 |
| | | | | | | 16.0 |

STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION SIX-WOMAN PUMPER RACES

| Teams | | Winners | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Yr. | Conv. City Entered | 1 st Place | Time | 2 nd Place Time | 3 rd Place | Time |
| 1977 | Longview | Seguin | 17.0 | Rosenberg | LaMarque | 17.9 |
| 1978 | Lubbock | Seguin | 16.6 | Weatherford | Sugarland | 20.5 |
| 1979 | McAllen | Rosenberg | 15.77 | Hearne | Rotan | 17.1 |
| 1980 | Dallas | Deer Park | 17.94 | Rosenberg | Alvarado | 18.34 |
| 1981 | San Antonio | Seguin | 15.52 | Rosenberg | Hearne | 16.72 |
| 1982 | Abilene | Seguin | 15.47 | Rosenberg | Hearne | 15.87 |
| 1983 | Beaumont | Livingston | 16.41 | Seguin | Deer Park | 17.4 |
| 1984 | McAllen | Normangee | 14.6 | Rosenberg | Alvin | 15.05 |
| 1985 | Waco | Seguin | 15.14 | Georgetown | Needville | 17.12 |
| 1986 | Austin | Del Rio | 16.41 | Deer Park | Marshall | 18.0 |
| 1987 | Amarillo | Fulton | 14.67 | Livingston | Alvin | 16.1 |
| 1988 | Beaumont | Alvin | 13.75 | Deer Park | Brenham | 15.72 |
| 1989 | Arlington | Alvin | 15.33 | Livingston | Needville | 17.41 |
| 1990 | El Paso | Alvin | 16.04 | Pasadena | Fulton | 16.55 |
| 1991 | Longview | Alvin | 15.13 | Rosenberg | Seguin | 16.5 |
| 1992 | McAllen | Deer Park | 15.99 | Hearne | Rosenberg | 16.85 |
| 1993 | Waco | Elgin | 15.59 | Alvin | Deer Park | 15.78 |
| 1994 | Beaumont | Pasadena | 13.17 | Deer Park | Alvin | 14.4 |
| 1995 | Abilene | Needville | 15.49 | Hearne | Pasadena | 17.19 |
| 1996 | Amarillo | Seguin | 16.14 | Alvin | Deer Park | 17.24 |
| 1997 | Galveston | Deer Park | 15.36 | Seguin | Elgin | 16.89 |
| 1998 | Wichita Falls | Conroe | 15.52 | Seguin | Rosebud | 15.89 |

STATE FIREMEN'S AND FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION SIX-WOMAN PUMPER RACES

| Teams | | | Winners | | | | |
|-------|----------------------|---------|--|-----------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| Yr. | Conv. City | Entered | 1 st Place | 2 nd Place | Time | 3 rd Place | Time |
| 1999 | Lubbock | 8 | Alvin | Seguin | 16.03 | Crosbyton | 16.75 |
| 2000 | Waco | 8 | Alvin | Needville | 15.39 | Hearne | 16.42 |
| 2001 | McAllen | 6 | Brenham | Deer Park | 17.48 | Central Texas District | 17.9 |
| 2002 | Beaumont | 6 | Livingston | Alvin | 18.17 | Brenham | 18.73 |
| 2003 | Galveston | 9 | Alvin | Deer Park | 15.16 | Needville | 16.35 |
| 2004 | Corpus Christi | 10 | Alvin | Pasadena | 20.14 | Rosebud | 20.57 |
| 2005 | Wichita Falls | 5 | Cameron | Needville | 19.51 | Pasadena | 20.74 |
| 2006 | Waco | 5 | Alvin | Cameron | 16.73 | Pasadena | 18.00 |
| 2007 | Amarillo | 1 | Alvin | East Texas District | 26.95 | Exhibition Only | 26.29 |
| 2008 | Beaumont | 3 | Alvin | Pineland | 18.20 | Needville | 24.2 |
| 2009 | McAllen | 4 | Alvin | Edinburg | 17.70 | Central Texas District | 22.9 |
| 2010 | Corpus Christi | 4 | Alvin | Cameron | 20.35 | Needville | 23.53 |
| 2011 | Mesquite | 3 | Alvin | Needville | 20.00 | Cameron | 23.14 |
| 2012 | Houston | 3 | Alvin | Pineland | 23.17 | Santa Fe | 24.59 |
| 2013 | The Woodlands | 4 | Pineland | Santa Fe | 20.49 | Alvin | 21.20 |
| 2014 | Lubbock | 3 | Santa Fe | Alvin | 17.49 | Needville | 22.77 |
| 2015 | Galveston | | Races were cancelled due to inclement weather. | | | | |
| 2016 | McAllen | 1 | Alvin | | 28.77 | | |
| 2017 | San Marcos | 1 | Central Texas | | 21.68 | | |
| 2018 | Arlington - No teams | | No Pumper Races | | | | |
| 2019 | Longview | | No Pumper Races | | | | |