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## About Us

### What does the AFCA do?

#### Educate

We strongly support quality training for our firefighters. During the late 90's we were successful in getting the Fire Standards Council approved by the state legislature.

Our support of education does not stop with firefighters. We are also advocates of public education.

#### Train

Twice annually we have the opportunity to train together. We have the Alaska Fire Conference (fall) and Leadership Summit (spring) conference during which we offer a wide variety of training for chief level officers.

#### Network

We have numerous opportunities to discuss our problems and concerns with our peers. The Department of Veteran and Military Affairs has, for years now, graciously allowed us to use the First Class e-mail system. The majority of our members are taking advantage of this.

We also have monthly teleconferences where we make decisions on the direction of our organization. Frequently, neighboring departments will gather and share the expense of the teleconference.

Finally, we get to meet in person, twice a year, at our conferences. This is a great time to learn from and share with our fellow chief officers.

#### Lobby

Every spring we travel to Juneau for the Leadership Summit to take our concerns to the legislature. This is a great opportunity to get some of your community issues brought forth as well. We generally spend two afternoons "on the hill" talking with the legislators. The rest of the time is spent training.

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#### Goals

In 1971 the State of Alaska had 1,081 actual fires that resulted in 33 fire fatalities, which was also the ten year average for fire fatalities in Alaska at that time. In that year, the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association was established. Now, just over a third of a century later, we find that there were 2,758 actual fires resulting in 12 fire fatalities. Our current ten year fire fatality average is 16.

The over 50% reduction in the 10 year fire fatality average rate has been the result of the combined efforts of the Alaska State Fire Marshal office, the Alaska State Firefighters Association, and the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association. In 2005 we welcomed the Alaska

The goals for our Alaska Fire Chiefs Association are:

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**Long term**

1. Zero fire fatalities.
2. A sustainable funding source for the Alaska Fire Standards Council.

**Short Term**

3. Passage of a Fire Safe Self-Extinguishing Cigarette bill.
4. A statewide assistance program to assist registered fire departments with matching requirements for federal grants.
5. Assist registered fire departments with training and equipment needs.

**Upcoming Events**

2012 LEADERSHIP  
SUMMIT  
REGISTRATION  
2012 Leadership  
Summit Conference  
Schedule

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