

**Alaska Fire Standards Council**

**Mission:**

To establish professional standards for fire service personnel, and curriculum requirements for the certification of training programs.

**Vision:**

- Maintain the highest level of professional standards for the safety and welfare for fire service personnel and their communities
- Maintain comprehensive certification program requirements
- Enhance the capability and capacity of fire service response personnel
- Preserve public confidence in fire service professionals
- Enhance interoperability within Alaska's emergency response system

**Values:**

- Firefighter safety
- Effective open communications
- Public service
- Continuing education and training
- Professional credibility and integrity
- Community support
- Transparent process

**Term:** Four years

**Description:** 11 members - 10 appointed by the Governor: 2 chief administrative officers or fire chiefs of local governments (only one of these may be from a local government where the fire department consists entirely of paid employees); 4 representatives of fire fighters, including at least one fire fighter administrative officer from the Alaska State Fire Fighters Association (these members may not, while serving on the council, be a fire chief); 2 volunteer fire fighters, one from a community with a population of 2,500 or less and one from a community with a population greater than 2,500; and 2 members of the public at large with at least one member from a community with a population of 2,500 or less. In addition, the state fire marshal or a designee of the state fire marshal shall serve on the council during his or her continuance in office.

**Function:** The council may adopt regulations for the administration of AS 18.70.320-18.70.369 including establishing minimum training and performance standards for certification of fire services personnel; establish minimum fire training curriculum requirements for certification of training programs that are designed to enable trainees to meet these standards; govern the procedure for certification of fire services training programs that meet the minimum curriculum requirements; govern the procedure for certification of individuals who satisfy the minimum training and performance standards; govern the procedure for revocation of the certificate of a person or program; consult and cooperate with municipalities, agencies of the state, other governmental agencies, universities, colleges, and other institutions concerning the development of fire services training schools and programs offered in the state; employ an administrator and other persons necessary to carry out its duties and charge and collect fees determined by the council to be necessary.

**Chair:** Buddy Lane

For more information, please go to our [contact page](#).

We appreciate your interest in boards and commissions. For further information contact the boards and commissions staff at (907) 465-3500 or by [e-mail](#).



## AFFILIATE LOCALS

Anchorage Fire Fighters Union  
*Local 1264*

Fairbanks Fire Fighters Association  
*Local 1324*

Ketchikan Fire Fighters Association  
*Local 2761*

Juneau Career Firefighters Assoc.  
*Local 4303*

North Pole Fire Fighters  
*Local 4505*

*Visit our Website...*  
[alaskapffa.org](http://alaskapffa.org)



## Officers & Contact Information

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International Fire Fighter Magazine  
and AKPFFA Newsletter

# ALASKA PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION



*affiliated with the*

**International Association  
of  
Fire Fighters  
AFL-CIO, CLC**

*Respecting Tradition . . .  
... Embracing the Future*

# ALASKA PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

The Alaska Professional Fire Fighters Association was chartered by the International Association of Fire Fighters in 2004, bringing together nearly 500 professional, career fire fighters into a statewide organization.

Though our State Association is relatively new, our goals and objectives have been in place for many years with Anchorage Local 1264 and Fairbanks Local 1324 being chartered when Alaska was still a territory, 1957 and 1959 respectively. By uniting our efforts with Ketchikan Local 2761, Juneau Local 4303, and recently North Pole Local 4505 we present a united voice for professional fire fighters throughout the state. Our members respond to 75% of fire and EMS 911 calls in Alaska.

By combining forces we have already had an impact on the legislature in Juneau. This led to the recent passage of Alaska's Presumptive Disability Law, providing the presumption of job related illness for certain cancers and heart and lung disease contracted by fire fighters. We will actively work for legislation that supports the needs of career fire fighters and will fiercely oppose any proposed legislation that negatively affects the safety or welfare of our members.

To be effective in Juneau we must be active in the election process. We identify candidates for the House, Senate and Governor offices that support the goals and objectives of career fire fighters. We reach across party line and support candidates solely on their positions on issues that affect career fire fighters and their families.

The AKPFFA works with other state and provincial associations through our membership in the Federation of State and Provincial Professional Fire Fighters and in May 2008 hosted a conference in Anchorage for the federation.

We work with our International Association to provide training for our affiliate locals and provide leadership assistance when requested. Our annual convention provides an opportunity for professional fire fighters from across Alaska to meet and share information important to our future.



## The International Association of Fire Fighters IAFF

The IAFF was established on Feb. 28, 1918, for the sole benefit of rank-and-file fire fighters in the United States and Canada. It was on this date that 36 fire fighter delegates attended the first IAFF Convention and adopted the IAFF Constitution and By-Laws. The objectives incorporated into that Constitution remain in its preamble to this day.

Throughout the last 90 years, the members and staff of the IAFF have worked tirelessly to fulfill each of these charges. As a result of their work, the IAFF was the driving force behind nearly every advance in the fire and emergency services in the twentieth century, from the introduction of shift schedules early in the century to the enactment of the 2-in/2-out safety regulation near its close. With extremely active political and legislative programs, and with recognized experts in the fields of occupational health and safety, fire-based emergency medical services and hazardous materials training, the IAFF has long occupied a special place in the North American fire service.

Today, the IAFF is the primary advocate for providing fire fighters and paramedics with the tools

they need to perform their jobs. The union also provides a strong voice in the development and implementation of new training and equipment, and has worked hard to advance the proper staffing of fire and EMS departments.

At the founding meeting in 1918, the delegates decided to dedicate their union to the following objectives (modified only slightly over time):

- To organize all fire fighters and emergency medical or rescue workers;
- To secure just compensation for their services and equitable settlement of their grievances;
- To promote as safe and healthy a working environment for fire fighters as is possible through modern technology;
- To promote the establishment of just and reasonable working conditions;
- To place the members of the Association on a higher plane of skill and efficiency;
- To promote harmonious relations between fire fighters and their employers;
- To encourage the formation of local unions, state and provincial associations and joint councils;
- To encourage the formation of sick and death benefit funds;
- To promote the research and treatment of burns and other related health problems common to fire fighters;
- To encourage the establishment of schools of instruction for imparting knowledge of modern and improved methods of fire fighting and prevention; and
- To cultivate friendship and fellowship among its members.

From the Preamble of the Constitution and By-Laws of the International Association of Fire Fighters



Delegates to the 1918 Founding Convention

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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

**Quick Links**

[Lighthouse Uniform  
Company](#)  
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[Western Fire Chiefs](#)



## **About the Alaska State Firefighters Association**

The Alaska State Firefighters Association(ASFA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Representing Alaska's firefighters with chapters from Kotzebue to Ketchikan representing the interest of Alaskan firefighters, fire prevention specialists, Emergency Medical Technicians, dispatchers, and various other positions encompassed within the fire service today. The departments represented consist of paid, volunteer, and combination departments. The Alaska State Firefighters Association website will be a resource for both the safety minded Public and the members of the State Firefighters Association throughout the state.

### **Our Mission**

To serve our members through professionalism and leadership thereby enhancing the Fire/Rescue services of Alaska.

### **Our Vision**

The Alaska State Firefighters Association Seeks to:

- Provide a progressive voice for Alaska's firefighters
- Be a professional organization that provides the finest training and education opportunities to Alaskan firefighters
- Foster a fire safe Alaska

### **We Value**

- The contribution of all members
- Providing an atmosphere of involvement and participation
- The dedication of all Fire Rescue personnel to provide life safety and the protection of property
- Public and firefighter safety/education
- Inter-agency cooperation and communication
- Open communications at all levels
- Family unity and support
- Camaraderie, trust and integrity of the Fire/Rescue service