

News Release



Frederick County, Maryland
Division of Fire/Rescue Services
5370 Public Safety Place
Frederick, MD 21704

Issued By: Sarah Campbell
Division of Fire/Rescue Services
Cell: 443-277-5409
E-Mail: scampbell@frederickcountymd.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Frederick County Division of Volunteer Fire and Rescue Members Rise to Leadership at the Annual Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention

(Ocean City, MD, June 26, 2023) – Several members of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (FCVFRS) were elevated to leadership positions and honored last week at the 131st Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA). The Annual Convention was held in Ocean City, MD with numerous training opportunities and featured speakers in addition to the annual elections and awards presentations.

Eric Smothers, Assistant Chief of the Brunswick Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Company and a past President of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association was elected President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association. For the next 12 months he will lead the organization comprised of over 360 Volunteer Fire and Rescue companies from throughout Maryland. Clarence "Chip" Jewell, president of the Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department, will serve as Chairman of the 13-member Executive Committee of the MSFA.

Jean Main, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and representing the Brunswick Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Company was elected the President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the MSFA. This is the only time the President of both organizations have served concurrently from Frederick County, and only the second time this has occurred in the Maryland State Firemen's Association's history.

At the officer's installation ceremony on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, Frederick County Division of Fire & Rescue Services Fire Chief Tom Coe presented the incoming presidents a proclamation both on behalf of County Executive Jessica Fitzwater and from the Division of Fire & Rescue Services. Urbana Volunteer Fire Chief, Jim May made a presentation as President of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association.

Frederick County resident and volunteer member, Ashley Nalborczyk was also selected as the 1st Runner-Up for the Maryland State Firemen's Association Fire Prevention Ambassador. She will represent the MSFA throughout the State of Maryland at banquets, meetings, and special events.

Several Frederick County volunteers were presented awards and honors during the convention sessions. Bonnie Hurley of the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Company was awarded the Dr. Josiah Hunt EMS Person of the Year Award. Stacey Lakin, a member of the Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company, was awarded the Firefighter of the Year Award and Stephen Jacobs of the Citizens Truck Company was inducted into the MSFA Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to all the Frederick County volunteer members for their well-deserved honors and awards.

For further information contact Sarah Campbell at 443-277-5409 or via e-mail at scampbell@frederickcountymd.gov.