



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of a Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, December 12, 2024 – Nashua Country Club, Nashua, NH

Called to order at 1956 hours.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was requested for departed members.

Welcome from Host: Chief Steve Buxton welcomed everyone.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS. Members introduced themselves and where they were from.

Special Guests:

Minutes: A MOTION (Sitar/Murray) to approve the minutes of the November meeting, carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: A MOTION (Murray/Wholey) to approve the financial reports from November, carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Gregory Seymour, Dep. Chief from Keene, NH has been approved for membership.

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report: (Emanuel) –

The NHAFC executive board and ED conducted quarterly virtual meeting with the Commissioner of Safety and staff on Monday December 9, 2024. Discussion included a number of topics such as:

- Upcoming transition in state government with a new governor onboarding
- The importance of uniting law enforcement, fire, and EMS on active shooter/hostile event (ASHE) planning and training
- Changes in PPE station and protective ensembles for firefighters
- Cancer screening

- Educational benefits for first responders

Chief Emanuel has been sitting on the State's Critical Incident Response and Management Committee as state-level law enforcement officials discuss management and training systems that NH could employ to assist during an ASHE event. Emanuel praises Director Buxton, Director Cutting and Marshal Toomey for providing the fire/EMS perspectives of EMS in the warm zone concepts and areas for collaboration.

A Call to action has been made by IAFC NED President Ken Jones regarding the elimination the unjust Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). The power to call for a vote lies with Senator Chuck Schumer, who holds the key to calling a floor vote on the Social Security Fairness Act. Please see the email regarding this subject for specific instructions.

Lastly, Director Cutting has requested that Chief Emanuel share with the membership that Cutting will not be seeking reappointment to the position of Director of Fire Standards Training and EMS in March of 2025.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- Our application for 501 c3 has been approved by the Secretary of State also. I've been in contact with a representative for charitable gaming and I now find that we must have held the exemption for one year as well as filing paperwork with the Division of Charitable Trusts and the Lottery Commission among other qualifications to be eligible to participate in the charitable gaming. That would be March 12 in our case as the IRS gave us retroactive status. We're getting there.
- I've met with East Coast Emergency Outfitters yesterday and we will be restarting our options for shirts, vests, etc. with Assn. logo.
- I attended the NH Municipal Managers' Joint Conference with Maine managers at the Wentworth By the Sea on December 6. Their keynote presentation was the stage play dealing with the aftermath of a first responder's traumatic event. It was well received by the attendees.
- Primex reps, Brian Ryll (PFFNH), Justin Cutting and Tom Green met at 1100 November 14 to discuss means to make cancer awareness a top priority.
- Brendan O'Sullivan, Durham Fire Marshal, will fill the open slot on the ICC Membership Council.
- The January board and regular meetings will be virtual.
- The February NHAFC meeting will be at LRCC and will include breakfast and a seminar.
- Ad book proceeds to date: Total: \$32,250; Vendor: \$22,575; Assn: \$9,675.

1st Vice President Report (Watkins) – No report

Government Relations – (Schmidt) –

NHAFC Legislative Update and 2025 Legislative Service Requests (as of 12/10/2024)

2025 Bill Titles. To date, the Legislature has released almost 1000 Legislative Service Requests ("LSR", also known as bill titles). At this point, all the information publicly available is the LSR number, the title, and the sponsor. We have included all of the LSRs we have flagged for NHAFC below. The filing period for House members has closed. The Senate members have until later this week. Senator can also file “confidential” titles, meaning the title is never made public. If you have questions regarding any of the titles, we can attempt to get more information from the sponsor. We should see the actual language of the bills later this month or next.

2025 Legislative Deadlines. Key legislative deadlines for the 2025 session have been set including:

- January 8, 2025 – First day of Legislative session
- March 27th – Crossover (deadline for the Senate to act on all Senate Bills and the House to act on all House Bills, with the exception of the budget bill)
- June 5th – Deadline to act on all bills
- June 26th – Deadline to act on all Committee of Conference reports, including the budget (i.e., final day of session)

2025 Senate Committees . After the LSR chart, we have included a breakdown of the committee assignments for the NH State Senate. The House Committee assignments have not yet been made public.

Bill	Title	Sponsor
LSR 19	Relative to Payment By The State Of A Portion Of Retirement System Contributions Of Political Subdivision Employers.	Rep. Michael Edgar; Rep. Allison Knab; Rep. Chris Muns; et al.
LSR 26	Relative to The Assault Of A Firefighter, Emergency Medical Care Provider, or Law Enforcement Officer.	Rep. Dennis Mannion; Rep. Mark Proulx; Rep. Sheila Seidel; et al.
LSR 50	Relative to Material Subject to Disclosure Under The Right-to-know Law.	Rep. Bob Lynn; Rep. Jess Edwards; Rep. Katelyn Kuttub; et al.
LSR 82	Defining The Term Citizen For The Purposes Of The Right to Know Law and Including Preliminary Drafts Circulated to A Quorum Of A Majority Of A Public Body As Disclosable Documents.	Rep. Jess Edwards; Rep. Bob Lynn

LSR 108	Relative to Workers' Compensation and Creditable Service Towards Retirement.	Rep. Carol McGuire; Rep. Jaci Grote
LSR 112	Updating and Recodifying The Municipal Enforcement Of The Building and Fire Code.	Rep. Carol McGuire; Rep. Keith Erf
LSR 123	Relative to The Presence Of A Fire Department At A Fireworks Display.	Rep. Charlie St. Clair; Rep. John Sellers; Rep. Matthew Coker; et al.
LSR 124	Relative to An Optional Local Public Safety Assessment On Certain Room Occupancies.	Rep. Charlie St. Clair
LSR 128	Relative to Local Records Retention.	Rep. Joe Alexander; Rep. Bob Lynn; Rep. Katelyn Kuttab; et al.
LSR 131	Requiring New Hampshire Builders to Use The 2021 Energy Building Codes.	Rep. Wendy Thomas; Rep. Kat McGhee; Rep. Will Darby
LSR 138	Relative to The Maximum Amount Of Disaster Relief Funding Provided to Municipalities After A Natural Disaster.	Rep. Judy Aron; Rep. Carol McGuire; Rep. James Creighton; et al.
LSR 145	Relative to Subdivision Regulations On The Completion Of Improvements and The Regulation Of Building Permits.	Rep. Diane Pauer
LSR 160	Relative to Hazardous Waste Accident Fees.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 162	Relative to Critical Incident Stress Management Teams.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 163	Relative to Making The State Responsible For Maintaining Opticom Systems For Fire and Emergency On State Roads and Making An Appropriation Therefor.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 164	Prohibiting Electric Vehicles In Commercial Parking Garages.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 165	Relative to Reporting Requirements For Emergency Medical Services Personnel.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 167	Relative to Reimbursement Rates For Ambulance Service Providers.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 186	Relative to Payment By The State Of A Portion Of Retirement System Contributions Of Political Subdivision Employers.	Sen. Cindy Rosenwald; Rep. Laura Telerski; Rep. Mary Jane Wallner; et al.
LSR 196	Relative to Establishing A New Hampshire State Trooper Recruitment Loan Debt Relief Program.	Sen. Bill Gannon
LSR 230	Relative to The Cost Of Living Adjustments For Certain Group II Retirees In The New Hampshire Retirement System.	Sen. Bill Gannon

LSR 235	Relative to The State Building Code.	Rep. Carol McGuire; Rep. Keith Erf; Sen. Howard Pearl
LSR 251	Relative to Adding Retired Fire Apparatus (Fire Trucks) to Antique Vehicle Exemptions.	Rep. Stephen Pearson
LSR 330	Requiring Municipality Building Codes Match The State Building Code.	Rep. Joe Alexander
LSR 331	Requiring That A Public Body's Meeting Minutes Include Start and End Times Of The Meeting and The Printed Name and Signature Of The Recording Secretary.	Rep. Marjorie Smith; Rep. Bob Lynn; Rep. Katelyn Kuttub
LSR 332	Relative to The Issuance Of No Trespass Orders On Municipal or School District Property.	Rep. Juliet Harvey-Bolia; Rep. Diane Pauer; Rep. James Creighton; et al.
LSR 333	Making Preliminary Drafts Circulated to A Quorum or Majority Of A Public Body Available For Inspection and Specifying Additional Record Provision Requirements and Options.	Rep. Marjorie Smith
LSR 335	Relative to Establishing A New Recruitment and Retention Program For New Hampshire State Troopers.	Sen. David Watters
LSR 337	Relative to Enabling Local Political Subdivisions to Vote and Set A Reduced Default Budget Option.	Rep. Juliet Harvey-Bolia; Rep. Jason Osborne; Rep. Ross Berry
LSR 344	Establishing A Recruitment Incentive Program Within The Community College System For Public Safety Communicators and Dispatchers and Making An Appropriation Therefor.	Sen. David Watters
LSR 372	Relative to An Optional Local Public Safety Assessment On Certain Room Occupancies.	Rep. David Paige
LSR 450	Relative to Requiring The Department Of Labor Review and Adopt Workers' Occupational Safety Requirements That Are Similar to OSHA Standards.	Rep. Brian Sullivan
LSR 464	Relative to Warrant Article Approvals At Ballot Referenda Form Of Town Meeting.	Rep. John Sellers; Rep. Richard Lascelles
LSR 489	Prohibiting The Use Of Federal, State, or Local Funds For Lobbying Activities.	Rep. Kelley Potenza; Rep. Glenn Bailey; Rep. Jose Cambrils; et al.
LSR 493	Relative to Non-public Sessions At Public Meetings Where Discussion In Public Would Likely Affect A Person's Reputation.	Rep. Joe Alexander
LSR 498	Relative to Reimbursement For Ground Ambulance Services.	Rep. John Hunt

LSR 499	Prohibiting Antique Vehicles Designed Without Seat Belts to Be Operated On Public Highways In All But Specific Circumstances, Unless Retrofitted with Seat Belts Designed In Accordance with Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.	Rep. Timothy Horrigan
LSR 524	Relative to Prohibiting The Use Of Federal, State, or Local Funds For Lobbying Activities.	Rep. Cyril Aures
LSR 567	Relative to Defining Extra Duty Pay Hours For A Retired Part-time Police Officer's Hour Limit For Yearly Calculations.	Rep. Fred Doucette
LSR 585	Increasing The Maximum Benefits For First Responders Critically Injured In The Line Of Duty.	Rep. Douglas Trottier
LSR 590	Requiring Police Departments to Provide Fire Departments with Certain Motorist Personal and Insurance Information Following A Motor Vehicle Incident.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 604	Relative to Preventing Municipal Employees From Being Paid Under Multiple Municipal Contracts Simultaneously.	Rep. Stephen Pearson
LSR 612	Relative to The Definition Of "part-time" For Purposes Of Employment Of A Retired Member Of The New Hampshire Retirement System.	Rep. Douglas Trottier
LSR 695	Relative to Ground Ambulance Services.	Rep. Jerry Stringham
LSR 699	Relative to The Reduction In The Calculation Of State Retirement Annuities At Age 65 For Certain Group I Retirement System Members.	Rep. David Luneau
LSR 725	Relative to The New Hampshire Retirement System.	Rep. Charles Foote
LSR 750	Establishing A State Retirement Plan Group For New State Employee Members Of The Retirement System.	Rep. Dan McGuire
LSR 754	Establishing An Employee Assistance Program For Small Town First Responders and Making An Appropriation Therefor.	Rep. Loren Selig
LSR 808	Allowing Volunteer Emergency Workers to Use A Rear Facing Blue Light On Their Private Vehicles When Involved In Emergency Service.	Rep. Rich Nalevanko
LSR 810	Relative to The Detailing Of Law Enforcement and Crowd Control Services.	Rep. Terry Roy
LSR 814	Establishing A Multi-agency Task Force Chaired By The Department Of Safety.	Rep. Will Darby
LSR 827	Relative to The Enhanced 911 System.	Rep. Bill Boyd

LSR 844	Requiring A Public Body's Collective Bargaining Negotiations to Be Deemed Public Meetings and Requiring That Arguments Made and Information Generated During The Meetings Be Made Available to The Public Under The Right-to-know Law.	Rep. Pam Brown
LSR 865	Establishing A Study Commission to Examine The Causes Of and Ways to Alleviate The Shortage Of Law Enforcement Officers In New Hampshire.	Rep. Terry Roy
LSR 872	Relative to The Calculation Of Average Final Compensation Under The Retirement System.	Rep. Mark Pearson
LSR 875	Allowing EMTs to Have One Paramedic and One Driver If Needed.	Rep. Jennifer Rhodes
LSR 880	Relative to A Cost Of Living Adjustment In The State Retirement System.	Rep. Jaci Grote
LSR 904	Appropriating \$80,000 to The Department Of Education to Aid In Funding and Distributing AEDs to Schools, In Order That They May Comply with Requirements For AEDs According to Emergency Plans For Sports Related Injuries.	Rep. Margaret Drye
LSR 971	Relative to Expanding Access to Primary Health Care Services, Increasing The Number Of Direct Health Care Providers, Increasing Medicaid Reimbursement Rates, and Making An Appropriation Therefor.	Sen. Cindy Rosenwald

Senate President Sharon Carson Announces Committee Assignments

CONCORD, NH – Senator Sharon Carson (R-Londonderry) announced the committee announcements for the 2025-2026 Legislative Session:

**Election Law and Municipal Affairs:
Human Services:**

Chair: Senator Gray
Rocheport

Vice Chair: Senator Lang
Senator Avard

Judiciary:

Chair: Senator Gannon

Vice Chair: Senator Abbas

Health and

Chair: Senator

Vice Chair:

Senator Rochefort
Birdsell
Senator Perkins Kwoka
Prentiss
Senator Long
*Aide: Jess Bourque
Wash*

Commerce:

Chair: Senator Innis
Pearl
Vice Chair: Senator Ricciardi
Senator McGough
Senator Murphy
Gannon
Senator McGough
Altschiller
Senator Fenton
Reardon
Senator Reardon
*Condict
Aide: Aaron Jones*

Transportation:

Budget

Chair: Senator Ricciardi
McConkey
Vice Chair: Senator McConkey
Senator Gray
Senator Ward
Carson
Senator Fenton
Watters
Senator Prentiss
*Aide: Vivian Hall
Donohue*

Energy

Chair: Senator Avard
Avard
Vice Chair: Senator Pearl
Senator Carson
Senator McConkey

Senator Carson

Senator Altschiller

Senator Reardon
Aide: Pete Mulvey

Finance:

Chair: Senator Gray
Vice Chair: Senator Innis
Senator Carson
Senator Birdsell
Senator Pearl
Senator Lang
Senator Rosenwald
Senator Watters
Aide: Deb Martone

Ways and Means:

Chair: Senator Lang
Vice Chair: Senator Murphy
Senator Sullivan
Senator Rosenwald
Senator Fenton
Aide: Sonja Caldwell

Education

Chair: Senator Ward
Vice Chair: Senator Sullivan
Senator Abbas

Senator

Senator

Senator Long
Aide: Sophie

ED&A:

Chair: Senator
Vice Chair:
Senator
Senator
Senator
Aide: Kevin

Capital

Chair Senator
Vice Chair:
Senator
Senator
Senator Fenton
Aide: Declan

Rules

Chair: Senator
Vice Chair:
Senator Ward

Senator Watters
Perkins Kwoka
Senator Rosenwald
Rosenwald
*Aide: Max Taylor
Donohue*

Senator Prentiss
Senator Altschiller
Aide: Ryan Meleedy

Senator
Senator
Aide: Declan

2nd Vice President Report (Hunter) –

- Chief Hunter summarized some of the legislative activities included in Adam’s report and spoke of the activities of the Ground Ambulance committee.
- He also reported that NHMA has filled their lobbyist vacancies.

Sgt. At Arms (Chamberlain) – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Marshal Toomey) – No report

Division Reports

Fire Marshal: (Marshal Toomey)

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel:

We are actively recruiting for a full-time Fire Investigator, a full-time Hazardous Materials Coordinator, a part-time Hazardous Materials Coordinator, a part-time Recreational Ride and Lift Inspector, a full-time Amendments Coordinator and a full-time State Building Inspector.

Legislation:

The Legislative Service Requests (LSR’s) for the upcoming legislative session are starting to be published. We will be monitoring and release a report of the bills we will be monitoring in a future monthly report.

Board of Fire Control:

The next Board of Fire Control meeting will be held on February 5, 2025, at 1:00 pm.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In November, we received 23 incident notifications resulting in 11 scene responses. The Bureau of Investigations currently has 7 open arson or suspected arson investigations.

New cases (synopsis of some of our cases are listed below):

- On November 1, investigators responded to a structure fire in Ossipee. They determined the fire was accidental and caused by an electrical issue at a bedroom receptacle.
- On November 3, an investigator responded to Weare for a motor vehicle fire. This fire is suspected to have been caused by failure or overheating of the seat heater.
- On November 5, investigators responded to Rye for a structure fire. The cause is undetermined and still under investigation.
- On November 10, investigators responded to Plaistow for a reported oven explosion determined to be caused by the manufacturing of controlled substances. This investigation is ongoing.
- On November 14, an investigator responded to a structure fire in Conway to assist the Conway Fire Department in determining the cause of the fire. They determined it was accidental and due to an electrical issue.
- On November 20, investigators responded to a motor vehicle crash and fire in Bow. One person died as a result of the crash, not the fire. The cause of the fire was the collision, which is under investigation by the New Hampshire State Police.
- On November 24, investigators responded to Pittsfield for a structure fire. They determined that the fire originated on the top of the kitchen stove and was accidental.
- On November 27, investigators responded to a suspected carbon monoxide death in a vehicle in Epsom. The scene examination determined that the person died from natural causes, not carbon monoxide. The Epsom Police Department has jurisdiction over this investigation.

Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

- On November 4, investigators responded to Raymond for a fatal structure fire. The cause is under investigation but suspected to be accidental. This investigation is ongoing.
- On November 10, the BOI was notified of a carbon monoxide death in a tent in Laconia on November 8 that was initially not identified as a carbon monoxide incident. A butane-fueled space heater is the suspected cause of the CO release. This investigation is ongoing.
- On November 17, the BOI was notified of another carbon monoxide death that occurred on November 16 in Keene in a motor vehicle. This incident involved carbon monoxide from a motor vehicle and the investigation is ongoing.
- On November 20, investigators responded to a structure fire in Weare in which two occupants were found deceased. An autopsy found that one died of natural causes while the other died from smoke inhalation.

The fire is suspected to be accidental, and the investigation is ongoing.

- On November 26, investigators responded to a fatal fire in Claremont. This fire occurred within an inoperable box truck being used as shelter by a transient male. The cause of the fire is under investigation and is suspected to be accidental. The cause and manner of death are pending at this time.

Youth Firesetter:

- There was one youth fire setter assessment/intake in November.

Training/Committees:

- BOI investigators taught a class on warrants and citations for the fire service as part of the citation authority process.
- Members of the BOI attended the Child Fatality Review Committee and the Incapacitated and Vulnerable Adult Fatality Review Committee which they are members of.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed the following permits in the month of November:

- Building: 12
- Electrical: 26
- Plumbing: 1
- Fuel Gas: 7
- Mechanical Non-Fuel Gas: 6
- Fire Protection: 4
- Fire Alarm: 5

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 1 educational and 14 healthcare plan reviews, completed 253 inspections and 143 technical consults in the month of November.

Variance Requests:

We processed 4 variance requests in the month of November.

Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program

The Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program has conducted the following in the month of November:

- Proximate Licenses Issued: 1

- Display Certificate of Competency Issued: 1
- Consumer Fireworks Retail Store Licenses Issued: 0
- Explosive Magazine Inspections: 1
- Proximate Audience Inspections: 2
- Technical Assistance: 0

Modular Building Program

The Modular Building Program conducted the following in the month of November:

- Inspections: 3
- Audits of Manufacturers: 0
- Audits of Educational Facilities: 0
- Labels Issued to Manufacturers: 144
- Units Shipped to New Hampshire: 24

Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety

The Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety section conducted the following in the month of November:

- Amusement Registrations: 15
- Amusement Inspections: 15
- Amusement Incidents: 0
- Tramway Registrations: 101
- Tramway Inspections: 98
- Tramway Incidents: 0

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

Hazardous Materials response, coordination and consultation is available through the on-call SFMO supervisor.

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator is available for PEAC Software training for fire departments. PEAC is used for documentation of Tier II facilities and chemical storage.

In the month of November, our Hazardous Materials Coordinator attended the PEAC monthly training, provided Emergency Response Guidebook training at the Tuftonboro Fire Department, provided Dry Decon Training to the Southeastern NH Haz Mat Team, and participated as a member of a Q&A Panel on Propane Emergencies for the Seacoast Fire Chief's Training.

Electric Vehicles and Lithium-Ion Batteries

The council to study the impacts of electric vehicles, e-mobility devices, and the associated lithium-ion batteries hazards for first responder response, the environment, building and fire codes, life safety, and property protection continues its work. The interim report of the council was submitted to the Governor and General Court on November 1, 2024. Work will continue through 2025.

Have an EV or lithium-ion battery incident to report? Please fill out this form: [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) and Battery Incident Reporting \(office.com\)](#)

Incident Reporting:

Your commitment to ensuring we have great data to accurately show the fire problem in NH is greatly appreciated!

Please reach out to our NHFIRS team for any incident reporting questions at nhfirs@dos.nh.gov.

We continue to monitor the development of the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) new fire information and analytics platform, known as the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS), for the American fire and emergency services.

Find more information and resources here: [National Emergency Response Information System \(NERIS\) \(fema.gov\)](#)

Outreach Events:

[Our Ignitable Liquid Detection K9 Teams performed one demonstration in the month of November.](#)

[Interested in having the SFMO join an event in your community? Please reach out to us as early as possible so we can make every effort to attend your event. Send your request to us at \[fmopubliceducation@dos.nh.gov\]\(mailto:fmopubliceducation@dos.nh.gov\).](#)

[Want to know what resources we have available to supplement your event? Check out what is available to loan here: \[Equipment Loan\]\(#\)](#)

Public Education:

The USFA's Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative is a collaboration among the fire and emergency medical services to speak with "one voice" on fire and life safety. The theme for the month of December is "Holiday Fire Safety." Decorating homes and businesses is a long-standing tradition around the holiday season. Unfortunately, these same decorations may increase your community's chances of a fire.



Resources:

[Put a Freeze on Winter Holiday Fires](#)
[Winter Holiday Fire Safety](#)
[FA-24 Christmas Tree Hangtag](#)

Videos:

https://youtu.be/ixPiiw81nOY?si=_9yHtfe7vFFenjQg
https://youtu.be/26A-49Wb2F4?si=-LkUG_I-oK7GVu1

Find the monthly themes for 2024 here: [Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative \(fema.gov\)](#)

Training Opportunities:

Preparations are underway for 2025 offerings. Please reach out to Deputy Stacey Dubois at stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov if you are interested in hosting one of these sessions, or a future session, or would like to suggest a future training topic.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Cutting) (Submitted in writing) **ADMINISTRATION**

Personnel

- We have one vacancy for Program Specialist III (Education Technologist) of the Educational Technology section.
- We have two vacancies for full-time Fire Training Instructor positions. One candidate has been given a conditional offer.
- We have one vacancy for a Specialty Services Specialist (Mobile Integrated Healthcare) and have made a conditional offer to a candidate.
- Dr. Robert Rix has been hired as our part-time EMS Medical Director and will begin this month.
- A final offer has been made to a candidate for our part-time Communications Specialist who is expected to begin in January.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator for EMS Education Assessment Coordinator.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Vehicle Inspector Coordinator.
- We have vacancies for EMS Exam Coordinators and are conducting interviews.
- We have vacancies for EMS Vehicle Inspectors and are conducting interviews.

Grants

- The Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility infrastructure project continues to move forward.
 - Ongoing construction meetings are occurring on a regular basis.
 - Site work is ongoing and the CDL Training area, and the entrance to the Campus have been paved.
 - Light tower bases have been installed as well as drainage around the Campus.
 - The Phase II contract was approved by the Governor and Executive Council with an expected start date this month.
 - No new classes or prop usages are being scheduled for this campus until construction is completed. Classes will be moved to other facilities in the area.
- We are in the process of applying for the 2024 AFG grant which is open from November 12th until December 20th.
- The NH EMT Training Program remains active with grant funding for training new and existing EMS providers. Contact our Division or NH Employment Security for details and question.
 - Funding will only be available through the end of 2024.

Special Projects

- We have been working with the Police Academy, Department of Safety personnel, federal partners and local public safety leaders on developing a coordinated strategic approach, training and management of active threat incidents.
- With the passage of SB 352 we worked with the committee as outlined in the law to develop an early detection cancer screening pilot program plan. The committee developed the initial plan that was presented to the Commissioner of Safety and Governor, and the Governor approved the plan.
 - The RFP for this program has been posted.
- We continue to work with the NH Department of Insurance on the Ground Ambulance Cost Reporting Program and Study as part of the recently passed SB 407.
 - They have received the needed response from licensed EMS transport units and enough data to complete the project.
- We continue to work on our website transition and improvements with NH DoIT. Much of this work is being done offline in preparation of a full transition to the new state web platform.
- The *Law Enforcement Officers, Professional Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Career Development, Recruitment and Retention Program* established in New Hampshire RSA 188-F:70 remains active and available.
 - Details can be found on our website under the Recruitment and Retention link from the homepage.

Legislative/Administrative Rules

- The Fire Standards and Training Commission amended Fire rules relative to the Recruitment and Retention report and its recommendations will be before the December 19th Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) meeting.
- The proposed Trauma Rules are working through the internal legal process.
- An EMS discipline related administrative rule proposal has been drafted and is working through the internal legal process. This proposed change is supported by the EMS Coordinating Board and would allow for deceased providers names to be removed the public listing.
- We are working through the internal legal process for provisional EMS License rules following the passage of HB 1057 in the last legislative session.
- Administrative Rules to make the full transition to ETA's and sunset the former process have been developed and are working through the internal legal process for submission to JLCAR.

Outreach

- Staff members continue to attend various stakeholder and mutual aid group meetings and make department visits.

Mental Health & Resiliency

- The Mental Health Seminar for 2025 is scheduled for January 7-8, 2025 at the Richard Flynn campus in Concord. The content and presenters have been finalized and registration is open.
- PTSD Documentary Film followed by a panel discussion sponsored by Sobriety Centers and Forge VFR, January 31st from 9-12 at the Richard Flynn campus in Concord.
- We continue our work in partnership with the Police Academy to develop a more comprehensive program for PTSD training utilizing experts from this field in development of the curriculum and delivery.
 - The Governor and Executive Council have approved a contract with Dr. Nicole Sawyer to serve as the mental health professional consultant on this project which is underway.

Fire Standards and Training Commission

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be January 9th at 1000 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the Richard Flynn Fire Academy in Concord.
- The NH Fire Standards and Training Commission has approved the written comment period to open through November 12, 2024 to January 11, 2025 for public comment on the proposed administrative update to the Airport Firefighter curriculum.
 - Public comment can be submitted at: <https://nhfa-ems.com/fst-commission-curriculum-public-feedback-form/>. Public hearings are in the process of being schedule and will be announced shortly.
 - You can find the curriculum information at <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/boards/index.html>
- The NH Fire Standards and Training Commission (FSTC) seated volunteers for a curriculum development Visiting Committee for the new NFPA 1010 Firefighter I and Firefighter II standards. The new 1010 standard is part of the NFPA standards consolidation project.
 - Members of the Visiting Committee (VC) will be responsible for determining what students should know and be able to do, what the structure of the courses should look like, and how student skill and understanding should be measured.
 - Volunteers have been selected by the FSTC for the VC and will guide the Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS in creating the curriculum and instructional materials, testing materials, and other requirements outlined in Administrative Rule. The VC will meet once per month to review work done by Division curriculum developers and instructional designers. This process will finish when the curriculum is ready to be presented to the FSTC for approval and public comment.

CURRICULUM

- *Hazardous Materials*: The Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations Level certification exams have passed the first round of evaluation by The Pro Board. The programs are expected to receive accreditation during the next Pro Board CoA meeting in December.
- *Fire Inspector*: The development of Fire Inspector and First Responder Inspector curricula has been tentatively suspended by vote of the Visiting Committee. It will tentatively resume in February.
- *Fire Investigator*: The Investigator certification was approved by the Pro Board for reaccreditation.
- *Firefighter I & II*: The members of the Firefighter I & II Visiting Committee have been selected by the Fire Standards and Training Commission. The first meeting of the Visiting Committee will be on Wednesday, December 18th at 9am in Classroom 2 of the Fire Academy.
- *Airport Firefighter*: An administrative update of the Airport Firefighter curriculum is under way. No Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) changed when the old NFPA 1003 standard was consolidated into the new NFPA 1010 standard. This administrative update is currently available for the standard public comment period

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

- Firefighter I
 - Sunapee – ongoing (FF I & II)
 - Madison – completed in November, 9 certifications issued
 - Fall Recruit School – ongoing
 - Litchfield – January 21st
 - Keene – March 10th (FF I & II)
 - Spring Recruit School – March 3rd
- Firefighter II
 - Richard Flynn campus – Concord, completed in November, 16 certifications issued
 - Epping – February 19th
- Technical Rescue
 - Ice Rescue – Newbury – February 8th
 - Ice Rescue – Center Harbor – February 22nd
 - Swiftwater Rescue Boat Operations – Goffstown, April 11th
 - Swiftwater Level I – North Woodstock, May 5th and Franklin June 2nd
 - Swiftwater Level II – Goffstown, May 7th

- Driver Operator
- Hazardous Materials
 - Operations – Ray Burton campus – Bethlehem, November 23rd, cancelled for low enrollment
- Module Deliveries
 - Fire Behavior Skills – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, held on November 24th with 17 attendees
 - Firefighter II Vehicle Extrication – Dalton – December 6th
- IAFF Fireground Survival
- Airport Rescue Firefighting
 - Richard Flynn campus - September 25th
- “On My Time” Program
 - To date over 3,000 students have completed individual online modules and over 200 skills modules.
 - We continue to offer support and guidance to many departments participating in this program.
- Special Programs
 - FirstNet First Responder Network Authority – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, December 11th
 - This training program is delivered by the FirstNet Authority to better understand the development, features and use of broadband networks to enhance fire service communications.
 - This program is developed with eight modules ranging from the use of broadband within the fire station, interaction between broadband networks (LTE) and land mobile radio (LMR) networks, security of broadband networks, to advanced discussions on how broadband networks operate. The entire eight modules have been developed in the train-the-trainer format and are intended to be handed off to various training agencies within the fire service. The program includes PowerPoint slide decks, student guide and instructor’s guide for each module. Each module can be delivered independently; it is anticipated that all eight modules will be delivered in approximately eight hours.
- Electric Vehicle Training Resources
 - US Department of Energy, Alternate Fuels Data Center, EV Safety Training Resources for First and Second Responders
 - <https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-responders>

Testing

- We have begun using the new electronic testing system (Question mark) for certification exams.
- Monthly Testing was completed this month for the NFPA 1001, 1002 and 1003 testing processes which includes administering the written and practical exams.
 - The next monthly test is at the Richard Flynn campus in Concord on December 10th and at the Ray Burton campus on December 11th. The January test at the Flynn campus is January 14th.

Apparatus/Equipment

- Engine 2 and Ladder 1 are back in service and have passed annual pump testing.
- Ladder 1 passed annual aerial testing.
- All Hose Testing for the Flynn Campus has been completed and the Burton Facility hose testing is scheduled for December.
- The IAFF Utility Trailer has been replaced.
- The Health & Fitness and Assisting Special Rescue Teams kits for the Burton Facility have been completed.

Facilities, Prop Usage and Projects

- The Sullivan Fire Department used the Forcible Entry Trainer at their station on November 6th.
- The Manchester Fire Department used the “A” Building at the Flynn Campus on November 7th and 14th.
- The Newbury Fire Department used the “B” Building on the Flynn Campus November 16th.
- The Cheshire High School program was at the Flynn Campus for Fire Behavior training on November 20th.
- The MST class from Manchester High School was at the Flynn Campus for Fire Behavior training and Fire Suppression training (Vehicle Prop and “B” Building) on November 21st.
- We have ongoing maintenance and repair happening with our drill yard hydrants; two are still out of service awaiting parts.
- Work continues on the “J” Building to improve the learning experience for our students.
- A new ceiling and wall prop was constructed.
- Three Fire Cause and Determination boxes were built for the Recruit class.
- The river pump that feeds our Fire Pond has been repaired.
- Two wooden Doll Houses were constructed to support upcoming programs, one of which was the Modular Delivery of Fire Behavior.
- The “B” Building received its semi-annual maintenance by KFT.
- Meetings and email correspondence continue with the DOT, FAA, and Jacobs

Engineering on the upgrade for the ARFF Site. A needs analysis assessment was just completed and submitted by our staff.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
 - Instructor I – Manchester – January 16th
 - Instructor I – North Woodstock – March 29th
 - Instructor I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord – May 7th
 - Instructor II – Virtual October 21st
 - Instructor II - Virtual February 24th
 - Instructor III – Virtual April 9th
 - The Instructor Program and the Division have achieved incredible milestones in 2024. This year, we’ve nearly doubled the number of Instructor I certifications compared to 2023 and credentialed more students than in any year over the past decade. This success is a testament to the leadership of our staff as well as the dedication of over 20 instructors who have contributed to the program’s growth. With six offerings in 2024, demand has been extraordinary—every NHFA-EMS Concord campus course had a waitlist.
- Instructor Professional Development
 - Designing Effective Curriculum – Virtual February 25th, Richard Flynn campus February 27th
 - Developing Learning Objectives – Virtual March 25th and Richard Flynn campus March 27th
 - Engaging Instructional Strategies – Richard Flynn campus April 22nd and April 24th
 - Assessing Student Performance Using a Skill Acquisition Model – Virtual, May 27th and Richard Flynn campus May 29th
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus - Concord, December 4th
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, February 4th
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, May 13th
 - Fire Officer II – Virtual October 15th
 - Fire Officer II – Virtual April 2nd
- Fire Inspector Programs
 - Fire Inspector I – Portsmouth, January 15th
 - Fire Inspector II – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, April 3rd
- Fire Investigator

- Warrants and Citations – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 13th
- National Fire Academy
 - Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 14th
 - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, March 10, 2025
 - Incident Safety Officer – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, April 7, 2025
- Your Workplace has Changed: Fire Dynamics for Structural Firefighting

Education Technology

- There is now a separate course tile in the course listing on the Resource Center to accommodate On My Time skills.
- The final version of the Optimizing Sleep in Public Service was approved. We built a Moodle course for it and a catalog page and published it. Nineteen students are enrolled and four have completed.
- Work continues on the Prenatal Assessment and Normal Labor and Delivery program.
- Initial updates have been made to the Firefighter I and II courses; specifically Ventilation, Haz Mat Awareness, Safety and Communications.
 - Knowledge checks are no longer embedded in the lesson. They are separate activities that exist outside of the lesson. This will allow us to randomize the questions, gather data on the question validity and student performance
- Work continues on Pediatric Safe Transport.
- Work is being done to support messaging and resources for the upcoming cancer screening pilot program.

Instructors

- The Fire Training Captains have been actively training and endorsing Instructors and Program Assistants in numerous classes and prop operations.
- The Division is always looking for highly motivated team members to become instructors. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, please contact Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips at Jeffrey.r.phillips@dos.nh.gov or 603-223-4213

CPAT

- There were (6) CPAT dates in 2024. We restructured the schedule of these exams to better span the entire year to make this test more aligned with department hiring needs.

- This year's NH Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) was a success, with 293 candidates participating and nearly 70% achieving a passing score. Prior to the test, candidates attended an orientation to become more familiar with the course and build confidence. Fire Departments from across the state played a vital role, offering significant support in proctoring the events. The CPAT program introduced updates to its equipment and testing locations throughout the year. Looking ahead, the CPAT team aims to enhance candidate preparation by offering exercise and strength training programs, personalized nutrition plans, and year-round opportunities to train on the course. These efforts reflect the program's commitment to fostering success and readiness among future fire service professionals.
- Department member assistance is needed for CPAT on testing days. Please confirm available personnel to assist with PC Nick Poulin at Nicholas.a.poulin@dos.nh.gov prior to the test date to assist in planning.

BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Boards and Commissions

- The NH Medical Control Board meeting will meet at 0930 on January 16th.
- The NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board meeting will meet on January 16th at 1300.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on December 18th.
- The Privacy Committee will meet December 11th at 1300.

Operations

- With final adoption of the Educational Training Agency ruleset as of April 30, 2024, the Administrative Packet for application can be found at on the Division website and Resource Center.
 - There are currently 11 licensed ETA's, 8 in processing and 22 additional that have expressed interest.
- Initial EMS Instructor license applications are now available in Respond NH.
 - Interested individuals should start the application first and then you will be contacted.
- The EMS Simulation Training Program is active with ongoing open enrollment courses.
- In response to the loss of maternal health services throughout NH over the last twenty years, a team from Dartmouth-Hitchcock partnered with the Division to secure grant funding for Basic Life Support in Obstetrics (BLSO) training in critical access emergency departments and EMS agencies across New Hampshire. While

successful, the courses proved unsustainable for long-term EMS education. With remaining funds, the focus shifted to creating simulation-based education for New Hampshire EMS providers. This multi-year effort reached a major milestone in October when Pronto International, an NGO specializing in high-fidelity simulation for low-resource settings, conducted a train-the-trainer program with Division instructors. This initiative aims to equip EMS providers with the tools and skills necessary to deliver effective care to the maternal health population statewide. This new program is planned for delivery in early 2025.

- There are currently 306 licensed EMS Units and 6,069 licensed Providers.
- 31 ambulances and 5 Wheelchair Vans were inspected last month.
- 3 BLS exams were conducted last month with 8 additional are scheduled until May 2025. 1 ALS exam is scheduled until May 2025.
- Background checks are currently averaging 6 days for new applicants for licensure.

Courses/Programs

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
 - No future EMR programs will be covered by ARPA grants as the funding expires at the end of this year. Courses for 2025 are being planned.
- EMS Continuing Education and Simulation Education
 - *The Cost of Code 3 – An Evidence-Based Look at Lights and Siren Usage* – Richard Flynn campus, Concord December 4th and Virtual December 19th
 - *Cognitive Bias in EMS* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord December 4th and Virtual December 19th
 - *The Pre-Hospital Use of Ketamine* – Virtual, December 10th
 - *Obstetrics Childbirth* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord November 13th and Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem December 11th
 - *The CBRNE Patient* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord February 5th and Virtual February 20th
 - *Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord March 21st
 - *NFA FO146 Supervising Emergency Medical Services* – Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem April 26th
- EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness, Operations and Rescue Task Force Concepts
 - The Awareness and Operations courses are available free to students on our online training platform.
 - The RTF Concepts class is a half-day in-person training that is also available. Grant funding opportunities are available for those that have not done so already.
 - If anyone is looking for this program, please contact Shawn Croteau at Shawn.A.Croteau@DOS.NH.GOV

Clinical Systems

- We are working to support multiple initiatives including enhancing “Leave Behind” Narcan distribution, updating EMS Infection Control Best Practices in collaboration with DHHS and our education group, and reviewing EMS System Efficiency concepts.
- EMS Bulletin #89 relative to IV Fluid Expiration Date Extensions and #90 relative to an Approved Formulary Clarification for Dextrose were released.
 - All EMS Bulletins can be found on our website at:
<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/bulletins/index.html>
- We continue our outreach and support to agencies for inter-facility transfers and mobile integrated health programs.
 - There are currently 15 MIH programs in NH.

Data Management

- NHESR
 - If you would like to start using the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), please fill out the form available at <https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/>.
 - Fire User Group meetings occur remotely on the second Wednesday at 1300 hours each month.
 - EMS User Group meetings occur remotely on the fourth Wednesday at 0930 hours each month.
 - Coordination continues with the Fire Marshal’s Office for further education and guidance for reporting.
 - 113 departments are utilizing the system for incident reporting.
 - We have created several templates for reporting including an AFG Grant Checklist Report and a new ISO Audit Report.
 - Anyone interested in the system can contact nhesr@dos.nh.gov by email, submit a ticket at <https://nhfa-ems.com/support/>, or call 603-223-4200 and ask for a member of the data team to reach us.
- RespondNH
 - The Division continues to expand the capabilities of the RespondNH system. As we are able to utilize this system and analyze more data it is important to have department roster information updated and current. Each department has the full capability to manage their own roster by adding new staff and removing those that may have left. Departments can do this at any time. For State level reporting information please fill out

your roster information to include their status (career, call, or volunteer) as well as the duties they provide such as EMS care and/or fire suppression.

- EMS Instructor Initial/Reinstatement applications are online and available for licensing.
- EMS Instructor Renewal applications will be available online in early 2025.
- EMS Units utilizing third party ePCR software are being encouraged to finish onboarding.
- 21,352 EMS incidents were entered into the system for October bringing the total for 2024 to 242,651.

Compliance

- There are currently over 48 active investigations and ongoing cases.

Preparedness and Special Projects

- 12 outreach events for AED consultations and orientation sessions occurred last months across NH.
- 2 Preparedness outreach events occurred last month.

Professional Development Committee _ (Director Cutting) – No report

Fire Standards and Training Commission – (Chiefs Clark/DeAngelis) –

Chief Clark reported (in writing) that the Visiting Committee on Firefighter 1 and 2 has their initial meeting at 9 am at the Academy on December 18th. This is a chance for anyone to express their concerns or comments concerning how FF 1 and FF 2 are taught.

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Paquette) – No report

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chiefs E. Thomas/Cathy) – No report

EMS Trauma Medical Review Committee (Dep. Chief Clough) – No report

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Buxton) –

- Public Assistance
 - We continue to monitor activity surrounding the passing of Federal Budget Legislation or an additional CR.
 - i. The CR funds the federal government until December 20, 2024.
 - We continue to work with FEMA on existing Disaster Relief efforts.
 - i. Thank you to everyone that has assisted staff with the COVID 19 closeout process.

- Mitigation
 - We continue to work to support the following programs:
 - i. Hazard Mitigation Planning
 - ii. Mitigation Project Scoping
 - iii. High Hazard Dam Programs
 - iv. SWIFT Current efforts to address repetitive flooding locations.

- EMPG
 - If you have a potential EMPG project, please reach out to your Stakeholder Liaison for assistance.

- Homeland Security Grants
 - We are currently preparing for the FY25 notice of funding.
 - i. We are monitoring fund and program changes for the FY25 process.

- Active Shooter Incident Management
 - Working groups continue to meet regarding Incident Management initiatives for Law Enforcement.
 - WE are preparing for the formal recommendation and adoption of NFPA 3000 (ASHER)/ALERT programs.

- School Safety
 - School Districts are underway submitting their updated Emergency Operations plans. Please make sure you are aware of and participating in the process. As a reminder October 15th was the deadline for this year's plan submission. We do have a few districts outstanding. Please work with your school districts to get EOP submitted to the school program.

- REP
 - The FY 25 assessment for NextEra Energy has been established.
 - Assessment notice have been distributed to the EPZ communities.
 - A FEMA graded exercise was held in Dover this past month.

Other Items of Importance:

- The Division has started to work with Governor Elect Ayotte's transition team. As we prepare for the new Administration (January 9, 2025).

Commission to study the Incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in

First Responders – (Chief Watkins) – No report

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/Hunter) – No report

Building Code Review Board – (Chief Conley/Asst. Chief Pouliot) – No report

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief Blanchette) –

The board met November 18 and here is the summary of activity:

- Approved minutes of October 18, 2024 Meeting
- Adopted INST 100 Administrative Rules
- Adopted INST 300 Administrative Rules
- Reviewed Initial Proposal Draft INST 400 Rules
- Reviewed Final Proposal Annotated INST 500 Rules
- Adopted INST 600 Rules
- Reviewed Final Proposal Annotated INST 700 Rules
- Reviewed Final Draft Proposal Annotated INST 800 Rules
- Held a short Non Public Session on a complaint investigation follow up.
- Adjourned the meeting
- Next meeting will be January 22, 2025 @ 09:00

Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle)

- Laconia Facility Update: Project has been fully funded, and Pre-Construction meeting has kicked off – ground breaking April 1st-ish;
- Genasys Emergency notification platform is up and running, If you are interested in becoming a POC for your community to use the ENS for local messaging, please let me know. The statewide ENS system is offered to local communities at no cost;
- Community Events reminder – connect with our Public Outreach / Education Team for more info: Patrick Cavanaugh, 603-271-6911, patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov ;
- PSAP Comfort Dog is in training with her Handler. “Winni” is expected to be full time in a few weeks, graduation is Dec. 20th;
- Critical Incident Curriculum Planning continues with Director Scippa and the Active Assailant response subcommittee;
- Legislative front: LSR filed to clarify statutory language for Rapid Response and 988 call transfers;

- Mental Health Symposium planning continues for the event being held at FSTEMS January 7-8. Register here: <https://nhfa-ems.com/mhseminar/>



- Media events:



- In November, the Division of Emergency Services and Communications used its social media platforms (Facebook, X, and Instagram) to spread Thanksgiving safety tips, as well as mental health awareness messaging as the holidays are not always fun for everyone. The Division had a strong showing at the APCO Atlantic annual conference and we followed along with them on social media. We also highlighted staff achievements, including our very own Assistant Supervisor

Shellie Raposo being named Atlantic APCO Trainer of the Year. Our “Throwback Thursday” and “Tuesday Tip” segments continue to engage well with our audience. DESC’s social media engagement remains strong, and we will continue to drive engagement to our page in the months ahead.

- Behavioral Health Crisis Systems Study Committee met for its final meeting. The completed committee report has been submitted;
- Met with New Boston PD/FD and Space Force re: Re alignment of ESZ’s and 911 call processing for future response and exercise planning;
- Provided Governor-Elect Ayotte with a high-level brief of the Division’s mission and operations;
- E911 Commission met yesterday at the Fire Academy for our Quarterly meeting;
- Policy & 1-pager of “Best Practices” and for local messaging will be distributed to the membership shortly. If interested in becoming a local POC for Genasys, please reach out to me;
- Participating in the 988 Implementation and Planning Coalition meetings with a focus on re-energizing the First Responder subcommittee;
- KPI’s (YTD through November 2024):
 - 99.66% of all calls answered w/i 15 seconds (exceeding NENA standard of 90% w/i 15 seconds)
 - Avg. Police/fire Transfer time = 49.9 seconds (exceeding NFPA Std. of 60 Sec.)
 - Avg. EMD Transfer time = 125.2 seconds – stable relative to last year
 - Running @ 16% below last year’s call volume
 - 470 Transfers to 988 / RRAP since July 2022
- Any questions, comments, concerns, please reach out...

E 911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

- 394,000 calls through the end of November
- Severe Traffic Crashes are on the increase throughout New Hampshire
- Winnie the comfort dog will be graduating on December 20
- Text 911 calls are on the increase- hikers are texting when they need help to save battery life on phone- also a text will go through to the PSAP while a phone call will not.

- Decrease in calls can be attributed to: Less accidental calls by children; direct calls to 988 and/or less Vermont calls are coming in due to screening by carriers- Carriers working on Maine Border
- First Net will be spending 2.2 million over the next 10 years- 3 new towers over the next 10 years in NH- 1000 new towers nationwide
- The funding has been completed for the Laconia Facility- Construction to start late winter to early spring-completion summer of 2026
- The rate increase from .75 to 1.00 has not been approved yet.

NH Drug Overdose Commission – (Chief Thomas) – No report

NH Information Analysis Center – (James Heinz-liaison) – (Submitted)

Water and wastewater systems are still a frequent target for cyber compromise. The NHIAC is aware of several water systems in the northeast that have been successfully cyber attacked. These attacks could result in a potential loss of pressure and volume needed for fire flow. The NHIAC urges fire departments to build relationships with your municipal water partners, and to continue to work on protecting these systems. Please see the links below for more information.

[Water and Wastewater Cybersecurity | CISA](#)

[Ongoing Cyber Threats to U.S. Water and Wastewater Systems | CISA](#)

[CISA again raises alarm on hacktivist threat to water utilities | Cybersecurity Dive](#)

[America's largest water utility hacked as US infrastructure targeted](#)

Please pass this memo along to all of your members.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact your Fire/EMS Liaison Officer Jim Heinz at: James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov

New England Fire Chiefs – a Division of the IAFC – (Chiefs Jones/Murray) –

NED-IAFC Conf/Expo will be held October 28-31, 2025 at Mohegan Sun.

Chief Jones thanked all members who attended the Expo and witnessed his installation as President of the NE Division of the IAFC. He also mentioned that he will be forming a subcommittee to search out new venues for the Expo.

They are looking for someone to write a SAFER grant for a regionwide program on recruitment and retention.

He also mentioned the Social Security Fairness Act that has passed the House and is on the way to the Senate. This bill will remove the provisions that if you're a public safety

person collecting a pension, your SS benefits are offset. They are lobbying Senator Shumer to bring it to the floor for a vote ASAP.

Old Business -

New Business –

Good and Welfare –

- The 2025 Golf Tournament will be held at Lochmere CC in Tilton on August 11.
- The Annual Meeting/Vendor Showcase/Seminar will be held on April 10, 2025 in Plymouth at the Common Man Inn and Resort. In speaking with vendors at the NE conference, they overwhelmingly wished to return to the venue.
- There have been no conversations as of yet that we'll be at the Mt. Washington in May. The NH Municipal Managers will be partnering with them this year.

The raffle was held. \$325.00 was collected and \$163.00 was distributed in prizes with \$101.00 donated back. Counted by Chiefs D. Chamberlain and Murray.

Following the raffle, the meeting was adjourned at 1957 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Brent T. Lemire, ret.
Executive Director, NHAFC

December 12, 2024