

The Virginia FIREFIGHTER Newsletter

Fall 2013

Volume 3 No. 2

Dickie Harris Receives Governor's Fire Service Award

The Virginia State Firefighter's Association's own Richard "Dickie" Harris was among those honored in February with a 2012 Annual Virginia Fire Service Governor's Award.

Awards were given presented at the annual Virginia Fire Chief's Expo and Symposium.

Those honored were:

- Gerald "Jerry" Pruden, Chesterfield Fire & EMS, Excellence in Virginia's Fire Service;
- Roanoke County Fire & Rescue Department, Excellence in Virginia's Public Fire & Life Safety Education;
- Richard "Dickie" Harris, Virginia State Firefighters Association, Excellence in Virginia's Fire Service Management;
- Spotsylvania Fire, Rescue & Emergency Management, Excellence in Virginia's Fire Service Training;
- Spring Hill Suites Marriott, Glen Allen, Va., Excellence in Virginia's Fire Service Support (Private Sector);
- Virginia Beach Fire Department, Outstanding Fire Department Response;
- Kirk Rohle, Said Benayed, Ashley Osterday, Al Hussein Ahmen Wanas, Zoe Shankle and Deborah Shankle, Civilian Life-saving Award.

In receiving the Governor's Award, Dickie was nominated by State Sen. Frank M. Ruff Jr. and by VSFA President Gary Allred.

Each nomination letter is as follows:

Governor McDonnell,

It is with great pride that I endorse The Honorable Richard Harris for your consideration for the 2013 Governor's Award. Richard, better known to all as Dickie, has a long history of serving his constituents and the citizens of Virginia.

Dickie has managed and grown his funeral home business professionally and with the greatest of compassion. Serving the Lunenburg county area from two locations in Kenbridge and Victoria.

He has served the people of Kenbridge as mayor with distinction. The voters of Kenbridge have re-elected him repeated because they understand that he will lead the town council well as they

make policy for the town.

In addition to his business and his service to the Town of Kenbridge, Dickie gives back to the citizens by his service in the fire department. What began many years ago as a volunteer firefighter has led step by step to recognition state-wide as a spokesman for the causes of volunteer firefighters and fire services. Recognizing his leadership, his fire department gave him leadership roles. From the position of Fire Chief, his tact and leadership skills have been recognized regionally and state-wide.

Often over a number of years he has been one of the most recognized faces and voices making the case for the need for well trained and well equipped fire departments through out Virginia. Not only are neighbors more concerned about neighbors but they are allow rural communities to have fire fighting ability that would be impossible because of costs in many sparsely populated communities. Dickie has calmly and professionally worked with policy makers to stretch the meager funds available in order that those funds are distributed for the best good of the many fire departments.

I hope that you will see fit to join with the volunteer fire communities in recognizing one of Virginia true heroes.

Frank
Frank M Ruff Jr.
15th Senate District



If one searched throughout the Commonwealth for the person most deserving of the Governor's award, one would arrive in Kenbridge. There in this small Virginia town resides a visionary leader who sees and knows the Commonwealth.

In years past his statewide service included:

Two terms on the Virginia Fire Service Board

Chairman of the Virginia Fire Service Board

Led in establishing Virginia Emergency Responders Institute that brought all fire and EMS organizations together for the first time

Twice President of the Virginia State Firefighters Association

Continued On Page 5

WHEN YOU ARE CALLED
TO DUTY.....



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.

CHESTERFIELD
INSURERS

Fire and Rescue Agency

***Serving Volunteers in Virginia and
North Carolina since 1974.***

1-800-556-0123

FIREWISE



www.dof.virginia.gov

LANDSCAPING

CONSTRUCTION

www.firewisevirginia.org

MAINTENANCE



Are YOU Prepared?

RURAL FIREFIGHTING ONLINE



Enroll Today!

Education and training are the fundamentals of building a strong and effective small community fire department. The **Rural Firefighting Operations Online Course** provides a unique solution to the small community fire department problems of tight budgets, travel obstacles and member training availability.



**RURAL
FIREFIGHTING
ACADEMY**

484-365-3863 • LiveFireTraining.com

A Division of Live Fire Training Institute, Inc.



DO NOT BECOME A VICTIM!

...trust in the system solutions from BAUER.



SYSTEMS

SERVICE

TRAINING

WORLDWIDE

[VALUE AND INTEGRITY]

What if we could show you how to purchase equipment based on value rather than price? When Purchasing buys on price rather than Value, you are a Victim, which always inevitably leads to increased costs, reduced operational readiness or more frequent equipment replacement. Contact us today and we will gladly make certain you are not a Victim.

More information under www.bauercomp.com



ARE YOU SERIOUS?

Firefighting is a serious profession.

Deadly serious.

You provide your firefighters with the best training, personal protective gear, apparatus, and equipment available.

Shouldn't their insurance coverage be the very best available?

Provident Agency has been offering serious protection for firefighters and their families for more than 80 years.

It's all we do.

CJ Bens
Regional Director
800-447-0360

www.providentbenefits.com



Insuring America's Heroes Since 1928

Insurance products are underwritten by the subsidiaries of Unum Group and administered by Provident Agency, Inc.

Continued From Page 1

Currently he serves the Virginia State Firefighters Association in several capacities: (<http://vsfa.org/about-the-vsfa/about-the-vsfa/>)

Co-Chairman of Nominating Committee

Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee

Chairman of the Awards Committee

Member of the Finance Committee

Legislative Co-Chair

Understanding that charity begins at home, he has served for 43 years as the Fire Chief of Kenbridge (<http://www.kenbridgefire.com/3.html>). This volunteer position is demanding and could keep his focus completely on his home community, but he's always looking for other communities that he can help. He served as Secretary to Southside Volunteer Firefighters Association for 17 years.

His public service includes his long tenure as Mayor of Kenbridge (http://www.lunenburgva.net/?page_id=67). First elected in September 1990, the voters have returned him to this leadership position for 22 years. Delegate Tommy Wright says, "The neighboring towns of Victoria and Kenbridge have excellent relationships and it largely due to his demeanor and personality. His spirit of cooperation helps the whole county." This, too, could keep him at home, but he's a regular fixture around Capitol Square. His quiet manner has helped create good public policy and defuse controversy many times.

He knows the Commonwealth, and is known throughout Virginia. Senator Frank Ruff writes, "Often over a number of years he has been one of the most recognized faces and voices making the case for the need for well trained and well equipped fire departments through out Virginia. Not only are neighbors more concerned about neighbors but they are allow rural communities to have fire fighting ability that would be impossible because of costs in many sparsely populated communities. Dickie has calmly and professionally worked with policy makers to stretch the meager funds available in order that those funds are distributed for the best good of the many fire departments."

He is our #1 volunteer in the Commonwealth. He would never expect an award from the Governor; he would say that there is someone more deserving. We strongly disagree, but that's the way he is --- always putting others first.

Our nominee for the 2013 Governor's award is Richard 'Dickie' Harris.

Delegate Wright sums it up: "I've known him practically all of my life, and I cannot think of anyone more deserving. He is a very well respected person. When you think of public service, you think of Dickie Harris. He's a true public servant."

Sincerely,

Gary Allred
President
Virginia State
Firefighters
Association

Rural Firefighting Academy Now Offering Courses Online

ROYERSFORD, Pennsylvania – The Rural Firefighting Academy (RFA) announced the release of a new website, LiveFireTraining.com, and the launch of a new online course on Rural Firefighting Operations.

"The Rural Firefighting Operations Online Course provides a unique solution to small community fire department training problems of tight budgets, travel obstacles and member availability," said Dominic Colletti, chief training officer at RFA. "This new online program provides rural-specific firefighting information intended to help small-community firefighters and fire officers successfully meet day-to-day operational challenges inherently found in running their fire organization."

The online program, accessed from RFA's new website, LiveFireTraining.com, offers the flexibility volunteer firefighters need to learn at their own pace at an affordable price. It is particularly useful to indoctrinate fire officers, firefighters and pump operators into problem solving issues commonly found with the delivery of rural firefighting services.

The student can work at a pace that best fits him or her, and can take up to six months to complete the program. Each student successfully completing the course receives a certificate of completion from RFA.

The workbook used for the 17 module online course is the newly-revised, second-edition of The Rural Firefighting Handbook. Each chapter in The Rural Firefighting Handbook corresponds with an online learning module. Students take the course by reading a chapter in the handbook, reviewing the corresponding online module chalkboard presentation, and then taking the online module test. Each module test is "open book," with a time limit, and is comprised of a combination of multiple choice and "true or false" questions.

The LiveFireTraining.com website and Rural Firefighting Operations Online Course are available for immediate use by rural firefighters. Academy staff is available through email or by phone to assist students with questions on the course and subject materials.



If You've Been Injured, We Know How To Help. And We Will.

**With over 100 years of experience in
personal injury law, Allen & Allen
is here to protect your rights.
Call us for a free case evaluation.**

RICHMOND
PETERSBURG
MECHANICSVILLE
FREDERICKSBURG
CHESTERFIELD
GARRISONVILLE
SHORT PUMP
CHARLOTTESVILLE

ALLEN ALLEN & ALLEN

Attorneys for Injured Persons since 1910



1.866.388.6413 | www.allenandallen.com

127th Conference/Expo Recap

Contest Results

**William Packet Total Points
Award:**

1st Place - Orange

2nd Place - Falling Spring

**J.W. Ludwig Sportsmanship
Award: OWL**

Total Points

Orange - 25
Falling Spring - 11
Dunlap - 10
Christiansburg - 7
Covington - 6
Sharon - 5
Selma - 3
Kilmarnock - 3
Poquoson Fire - 2

One Man Hose

1. Dunlap
2. Kilmarnock
3. Christiansburg
4. Falling Spring
5. Orange
6. Boiling Springs
7. Poquoson Fire
8. Fairfield
9. Covington
10. OWL
11. Sharon
12. Selma
13. Poquoson Rescue

Two-Man Air Pack

1. Orange
2. Selma
3. Falling Spring
4. Poquoson Fire
5. Dunlap
6. Covington
7. Fairfield
8. Sharon
9. Poquoson Rescue
10. Boiling Springs
11. OWL
12. Kilmarnock
13. Christiansburg



Let The Competition Begin



Truck Rodeo



Motor-Hose/Motor-Chemical



Dept. of Fire Programs was instrumental in the conference's success



Vendors



More vendors

5-Man Dressing

1. Orange
2. Christiansburg
3. Poquoson Fire
4. Fairfield
5. Sharon
6. Boiling Springs
7. Dunlap
8. Covington
9. Kilmarnock
10. Falling Spring
11. OWL
12. Selma

4-Man Ladder

1. Orange
2. Sharon
3. Falling Spring
4. Christiansburg
5. Dunlap
6. Fairfield
7. Kilmarnock
8. Covington
9. OWL
10. Boiling Springs
11. Poquoson Fire
12. Selma
13. Poquoson Rescue

6-Man Ladder

1. Orange
2. Christiansburg
3. Falling Spring
4. Selma
5. Covington
6. Dunlap
7. Poquoson Fire
8. Fairfield
9. Sharon
10. Boiling Springs
11. OWL

**MORE CONTEST
RESULTS ON PAGE 11**

www.vsfa.org

127th Conference/Expo Recap



Vendor luncheon and more vendors



**Allen Brennan, left, makes sure the truck rodeo runs smoothly.
OWL volunteers, right, pay tribute to Chief Ricky Arrington.**



**The Virginia State Fire Services Board meeting, left.
State Fire Services Chairman Chief Richard Burch, center, from Roanoke County.
The cornhole tournament was very popular, right.**



**Bingo was also very popular, left.
Honoring deceased firefighters at the annual Memorial Service, center.
Right photo, EMS Provider of the Year, Greg Martin, right.**

See What You Missed...



Playing blackjack on casino night and rolling the dice.



Fire Chief of the Year, left photo, Joseph "Buster" Insley, right, Poquoson Vol. Fire Company. Virginia Governor candidate Terry McAuliffe, right photo, addresses the 127th VSFA Conference. He meets with VSFA officers and State Fire Chief's Past President Walt Bailey, center photo.



New officers are sworn in by Larry Gwaltney, left photo. In the right photo, President Larry Logan, right, presents immediate Past President Gary Allred a plaque of appreciation.

**Make plans to
be at the 128th
Conference/
Expo in 2014**



ISO To Accredite Dry Fire Hydrants In Virginia

RICHMOND – ISO, a leading source of information about property/casualty insurance risk, has started work in the Commonwealth that, when completed, will result in the accreditation of 1,613 dry hydrants in rural areas throughout the state.

What is a dry hydrant?

Water to fight wildfires or structural fires initially comes from fire department tankers or sidewalk fire hydrants, but additional sources are often needed to sustain operations. Firefighters in rural areas use “dry fire hydrants” to make use of local water sources. The Department of Fire Programs (VDFF) and the Department of Forestry (VDFOF) work together to make sure firefighters have access to this community resource.

A dry hydrant is a non-pressurized pipe system permanently installed in existing lakes, ponds and streams that provides a suction supply of water to a fire department tank truck. In rural areas, a lack of water mains and pressurized fire hydrants can sometimes impair a fire department's ability to do its job quickly and efficiently.

The success of a fire department's operation hinges on the distance a truck must travel to fill-up and return to the fire. In many cases, these fill-up points are often long distances from the fire, and the firefighters are unable to maintain an uninterrupted water source at the scene.

The installation of a non-pressurized pipe system into a local water source provides a ready means of supplying water to fire engines.

To learn more about dry hydrants, visit www.dof.virginia.gov/fire/dry-hydrant.htm

Who pays for dry hydrants?

Virginia's Dry Fire Hydrant Grant Program is funded by the General Assembly through the Virginia Fire Programs Fund. VDFOF administers the annual program's \$100,000 allocation, ensuring 100-percent of it goes into the installation or repair of hydrants. To date, the program has provided 1,613 dry fire hydrants to communities across the Commonwealth. Virginia's first dry fire hydrant was installed at the Atlantic Fire Department in Accomack County in 1988.

“The Dry Fire Hydrant Program has been an untold success story in Virginia for years,” said VDFF Executive Director Billy Shelton. “Our partnership with VDFOF has made it possible to provide firefighters in rural areas with a better chance to save lives and property by making local water sources more accessible. Now, with the ISO accreditation process underway, homeowners may see future reductions in their insurance rates as a long-term result.”

State Forester of Virginia Carl Garrison said, “We've worked in concert with the Department of Fire Programs for 24 years to ensure our rural communities are ready and able to protect Virginians from the ravages of wildfire through the installation of these dry hydrants. The annual funding from the General Assembly means nearly 30 new dry hydrants are added to the inventory each year.”

What role does ISO play in the process?

Fire protection is one of the risk categories monitored by ISO. They produce the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS), a manual containing criteria they use in reviewing firefighting capabilities of individual communities. The schedule measures the major elements of a community's fire-suppression system and develops a numerical grading called a Public Protection Classification (PPC™).

The FSRS lists a large number of items (facilities and practices) a community should have to fight fires effectively. The Schedule assigns credit points for each item. Using those credit points and various formulas, ISO calculates a total score on a scale of 0 to 100. To receive certain PPC ratings, a community must meet minimum criteria. After a community meets those criteria, the PPC rating depends on the community's score on the 100-point scale. Forty percent of the overall score is based on the community's water supply. This part of the survey focuses on whether the community has sufficient water supply for fire suppression beyond daily maximum consumption. ISO surveys all components of the water-supply system, including pumps, storage and filtration. They observe fire-flow tests at representative locations in the community to determine the rate of flow the water mains provide. They also review the condition and maintenance of fire hy-

drants. Last, they count the distribution of fire hydrants no more than 1,000 feet from the representative locations.

“The inclusion of the Commonwealth's 1,613 dry fire hydrants should positively impact this portion of the FSRS to the benefit of our citizens,” remarked Shelton.

About VDFF

The Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFF) provides support services to approximately 785 fire and emergency service organizations and over 120,000 firefighters in the Commonwealth. Support areas include funding, professional development, public fire and life safety education/awareness, research, operational support, advocacy, and technical assistance. For more information on VDFF, please click [here](#).

About VDFOF

The Virginia Department of Forestry protects and develops healthy, sustainable forest resources for Virginians. Headquartered in Charlottesville, the Agency has forestry staff members assigned to every county to provide citizen service and public safety protection across the Commonwealth. VDFOF is an equal opportunity provider.

With nearly 16 million acres of forestland and more than 144,000 Virginians employed in forestry, forest products and related industries, Virginia forests provide more than \$27.5 Billion annually in benefits to the Commonwealth.



Recently VSFA President Larry Logan, left, presents a \$10,000 LODD benefit check to Mary Lee Wells, center, widow of longtime Elliston Chief M.L. “Pug” Wells. With them is District 4 Representative Fred Linkous, right. Wells passed away unexpectedly in March 2012 and served as Elliston's fire chief for 48 years and was a member of the department for nearly 55 years.

VFIS Truck Rodeo Results

Forest Redd - Christiansburg
 Mark Wolfe - Boiling Springs Station 2
 Timmy Wolfe - Boiling Springs Station 2
 Doug Persinger - Boiling Springs Station 1
 Hollie Williams - Chancellor
 Roy Redd - Christiansburg
 Billy Cook - Elliston
 Aaron Simmons - Sharon
 Chris Cahoon - Selma
 Skip Dunaway - Spotsylvania
 Sam Horton - Covington Station 1
 David Harris - Riner
 Donnie Cromer - Blacksburg
 Marshall Keller - Northampton VFD
 Andrew Baker - Covington Station 1
 Rick Moore - OWL
 Greg Horton - Covington Station 2
 Phillip Gouldman - Chancellor
 David Tesh - Tappehannock-Essex
 Charlie Nicely - Selma
 Scott Phillips - Blacksburg
 Joe Breeden - Poquoson
 Brian Garner - Wythe VFD
 Greg Polan - Blacksburg
 Ethan Berry - Sharon
 Scotty Clements - Orange VFD
 Adam Bentley - Wythe VFD
 Greg McCoy - Long Shop-McCoy
 Pamella Allen - Dunlap
 Nichole Simmons - Boiling Springs Station 1
 Keith Evans - Waterview
 Shane Wright - Covington Station 2
 Bubby Bish - Southside

More Contest Results

4-Man Hose

1. Dunlap
2. Covington
3. Sharon
4. Poquoson Fire
5. Orange
6. Boiling Springs
7. Selma
8. Poquoson Rescue
9. Christiansburg
10. Kilmarnock
11. OWL
12. Fairfield
13. Falling Spring

Motor Hose

1. Falling Spring
2. Covington
3. Sharon
4. Selma
5. Orange
6. Poquoson Fire
7. Christiansburg
8. Kilmarnock
9. Boiling Springs
10. Boiling Springs
11. Dunlap
12. Fairfield

Motor Chemical

1. Orange
2. Falling Spring
3. Poquoson Fire
4. Dunlap
5. Poquoson Rescue
6. Fairfield
7. Christiansburg
8. Sharon
9. Boiling Springs
10. Kilmarnock
11. Covington
12. Selma
13. OWL

See You Next Year! Aug. 13-17, 2014

Memorial Campaign Enters New Phase

Construction of Virginia's long-awaited memorial honoring public safety officers who have died in the line of duty is expected to begin in the spring of 2014, according to Virginia Public Safety Foundation (VPSF), the non-profit organization that has served as memorial administrator for the past four years. "Our benchmarks for success, particularly regarding funding, are being met," said C. Hadden Culp, VPSF President and retired Assistant Chief for the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. "We have advised the Commonwealth that we are preparing for construction of the memorial in 2014."

The memorial, which will be built on Capitol Square in Richmond, will honor 802 public safety officers, including nearly 250 firefighters and rescue personnel.

This summer, in partnership with Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFFP), VPSF has been seeking financial support for the Memorial Fund from Virginia's paid and volunteer fire and rescue agencies. To-date, nearly 30 have made contributions. "We think it's important that every fire and rescue agency support the Memorial Fund, no matter the size of the contribution," said VDFFP Executive Director Billy Shelton, who also serves on the VPSF Board of Directors. Shelton noted that law enforcement agencies have contributed more than ten times the amount to the Memorial Fund as fire and rescue. "I hope every agency will offer the support they're able to give," Shelton said.

VPSF says that plans for the memorial's construction, which will take three to four months, and dedication, will be announced at a later date, but says that preparations for both have been in the works for years. "We've been planning for this for a very long time, often with what felt more like hope than expectation. We're happy to be moving forward with the seriousness of purpose required of us with just a few months left before construction commences," Culp said.

For more information on VPSF and the Commonwealth Public Safety Memorial, visit www.vpsf.org. To follow memorial construction progress, and for other updates, follow VPSF on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MyVPSF.

Have an article you want to submit to The Virginia Firefighter Newsletter? Send it to DSCrosier@gmail.com. Next deadline: January 1st

Scholarship Winners Announced

The Virginia State Firefighter's Association and the Auxiliary to the Virginia State Firefighter's Association are proud to announce its 2013 scholarship recipients.

Virginia State Firefighter's Association

Joshua Long, Riner - \$500
 Travis Karicofe, Waynesboro - \$500
 Mary Hollie Fix, Covington - \$500
 Ayla Landis, Bridgewater - \$500
 Casey Walker, Covington - \$500
 Brittany Lynne Mays, Covington - \$500
 Hunter Lee Allen, Elliston - \$400
 Rebecca Mays, Covington - \$400
 Brooke Elizabeth Nester, Fairlawn - \$400
 Evan James Gilbert, Virginia Beach - \$300
 Christopher Ethan Dew, Clifton Forge - \$300
 Scott Patrick Hull, Alexandria - \$300
 Evan Michael Rankin, Bealton - \$300
 Emilee Brooke Saylor, Radford - \$300
 Andrew Calvin Whitt, Dublin - \$300

The VSFA would like to congratulate each of this year's recipients and pay special thanks to our corporate sponsors, who assist the Association in making the scholarship program possible:

Provident Insurance
 Chesterfield Insurers
 VFIS

Auxiliary to the Virginia State Firefighter's Association

Justin Ayers,
 will be going to Radford University - \$1,000

Nathan Powell,
 will be going to Old Dominion University - \$750

Ayla Landis,
 will be going to Bridgewater College - \$500

Zachary Lokey,
 will be going to Blue Ridge Community College - \$500

Ashley Lohr, will be going to Virginia Tech - \$500

The Auxiliary's deadline to apply for next year's scholarships is March 31, 2013.



Wert Hayes Named Tappahannock Essex Volunteer Fire Department Chief

TAPPAHANNOCK — The Tappahannock Essex Volunteer Fire Department (TEVFD) has recently tapped John W. (Wert) Hayes to serve the two year term as Fire Chief. A native of Essex County, Hayes grew up and currently lives in Elevon. Hayes is a 1981 graduate of Essex High School. He had always been interested in volunteering with the fire department but after witnessing the controlled burning of a nearby old structure by the TEVFD, he was prompted to become a member. That was in 1993.

Hayes has achieved a number of different firefighting designations, including having been certified as a Firefighter 1 and 2; Hazmat Awareness; Hazmat Operations; Basic Pump Operator; Rural Water Supply; Emergency Vehicle Operator; and National Incident Management System.

Hayes, now a 20-year volunteer loves the camaraderie found in the TEVFD, but he also enjoys the excitement and en-

ergy. "I get a lot of satisfaction in being a part of the volunteer fire department. The people are great, but doing the job is great, too. Being Chief may be a little bit different for me, but I've worked with some really good chiefs, and I work with some great Captains, and Assistant Chiefs like Dick Bates, Corey Beazley, Kyle Durham, Mike Greber and Henry Baxter – so I have a great team who are really supportive. And, we are fortunate to have other volunteers who are very dedicated – volunteers like Marvin Collaw – and many others make a huge difference in the volunteer firefighter community."

Hayes, a residential contractor serving Essex County and the whole of the Northern Neck is a member of the Tappahannock Seventh Day Adventist Church. He is married to Judi Bickford Hayes. Together they have three daughters, Elyse, Taylor and Hannah, and two female dogs. In addition to his volunteering with the TEVFD, and being active in his church, Hayes and his family enjoy hunting, and boating. About being the only man in his household Hayes says, "I wouldn't have it any other way."

**Follow The Virginia
State Firefighter's
Association On
Facebook!**

Gene Reams & Associates

**Government Grants
Grant Management
Fire Prevention &
Safety Grant (FP&S)**

Grant Writing Professionals

Let us help with your organization's funding needs

Contact Us

804-306-6402

greams@grantsbygra.com

www.grantsbygra.com

LCM

C O R P O R A T I O N

Total Environmental Services

Hampton, Virginia
(757) 380-5583

Roanoke, Virginia
(540) 344-5583



*We Proudly Salute Our Fire &
Rescue Community.*

Enhancing Public Safety Throughout the Commonwealth



Virginia Department of Fire Programs

Visit us online at:

www.vafire.com

www.facebook.com/VaFirePrograms



VFIS is the largest provider of insurance, education and consulting services to Emergency Service Organizations. Since 1980, we have handled more than 370,000 emergency service claims for our customers. Our success is reflected in our accomplishments.

- VFIS insures more Emergency Service Organizations in North America than any other provider
- We have retained 95.6% of our customers
- In 2010, VFIS trained more than 16,000 students in 43 states

For additional information on how you can receive industry leading Insurance, Benefits and Education, Training & Consulting, contact Terry Mensinger, VFIS Sales Executive at **(800) 233-1957, ext. 7922** or Mark Bowery at J. Mark Bowery Insurance, VFIS Regional Director at **(800) 752-9620** or visit www.vfis.com.



*"First on the Scene ...
Still Responding."®*



Virginia State Firefighter's Association
c/o David Akers, Secretary
390 Craig Street
Christiansburg, VA 24068

POSTAL PERMIT #418

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED