

2018
ANNUAL REPORT

**MARYLAND
FIRE-RESCUE EDUCATION
AND
TRAINING COMMISSION**



Service Readiness through Education and Training

Larry Hogan
Governor

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D.
Secretary of Higher Education

John D. Jerome
Chairman

Division of the Maryland Higher Education Commission
MSAR # 984

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August 13, 2018

Dr. James Fielder
Secretary
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Dear Secretary Fielder:

Pursuant to Education Article § 11-503(a) (12), please see the attached report regarding the activities of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission.

As you know, the last year has brought some change to the Commission with long-time Chairman Clemens's departure. I can report to you that the Commission has adjusted well and is continuing their work, including taking a fresh look at our statutory responsibilities, who our stakeholders are and how we communicate and collaborate with them, and how we are internally accomplishing the work that needs to be done.

The goal of the Commission remains ensuring that the men and women of Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services are well-prepared through training and education, and that the standards of that preparation include accepted best practices and meet nationally accepted levels. We also work to ensure that opportunities are available for training and education that align with the emerging service delivery needs. Doing so, the Commission coordinates with numerous statewide agencies, local fire and rescue academies, college programs, and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. All of these entities work together to ensure that we are able to prepare our personnel for the challenges they face in serving the public.

The Commission is committed to continuing to enhance emergency service quality through training and education to ensure the best possible service for the citizens of Maryland. The members of the Commission would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

Please see the enclosed annual report of the Commission's activities.

Sincerely yours,
John D. Jerome
Chairman

JDJ: avo

Report Submitted Pursuant to Education Article § 11-503(a) (12)

August 13, 2018

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor
State of Maryland
The State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor Hogan:

As one can see regularly in the news, the service of our state's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel is not only an integral part of our communities, but also an important strategic resource used to ensure the safety and well-being of our citizens. These well-prepared emergency service personnel provide a critical layer of protection that is always available. Whether it is confining and extinguishing a fire in someone's home, freeing a trapped victim from the wreckage of an automobile crash, or treating someone's loved-one for a heart attack, these services are constantly in motion, at every hour of the day, protecting lives and property.

Increasingly, as the risks to our communities evolve from the common risks of fire, rescue, and medical emergencies to the more complex threats of terrorism, first responders are called upon to also train and prepare for non-traditional roles, such as response to orchestrated chemical, biohazardous, and radiation attacks, and providing care while at risk during active assailant incidents.

As you can imagine, the training, education, and preparation of these volunteer and career responders is of the utmost importance. In Maryland, this training and education is provided by a network of agencies and institutions that includes jurisdictional training academies, state agencies, private organizations, colleges, and universities.

The Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission works to ensure that the men and women of Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services are trained and educated to the highest standards. The Commission has the responsibility of coordinating the work of numerous state and local agencies, local fire and rescue academies, college programs, and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. All of these entities work together to ensure that our dedicated providers are well-prepared for the challenges they face when serving the public.

The Commission is committed to continuing to enhance emergency services and education so that the best possible service can be provided to the citizens of Maryland. The members of the Commission would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

Please see the enclosed annual report of the Commission's activities.

Sincerely yours,
John D. Jerome
Chairman

JDJ: avo

Report Submitted Pursuant to Education Article § 11-503(a) (12)

August 13, 2018

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President
Senate of Maryland
H-107 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

As one can see regularly in the news, the service of our state's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel is not only an integral part of our communities, but also an important strategic resource used to ensure the safety and well-being of our citizens.

Increasingly, as the risks to our communities evolve from the common risks of fire, rescue, and medical emergencies to include more complex threats of terrorism, first responders are called upon to also train and prepare for non-traditional roles, such as response to orchestrated chemical, biohazardous, and radiation attacks, and providing care while at risk during active assailant incidents.

This dynamic makes the training, education, and preparation of these volunteer and career responders extremely important to the state's citizenry, infrastructure, and economy. In Maryland, this training and education is provided by a network of agencies and institutions that includes jurisdictional training academies, state agencies, private organizations, colleges, and universities.

The Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission works to ensure that the men and women of Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services are trained and educated to the highest standards. The Commission has the responsibility of coordinating the work of numerous state and local agencies, local fire and rescue academies, college programs, and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. All of these entities work together to ensuring that our dedicated providers are well-prepared for the challenges they face when serving the public.

The Commission is committed to continuing to enhance emergency services and education so that the best possible service can be provided to the citizens of Maryland.

Please see the enclosed annual report of the Commission's activities.

Sincerely yours,
John D. Jerome
Chairman

RMC: avo

Report Submitted Pursuant to Education Article § 11-503(a) (12)

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**MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE
EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION**

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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THE MISSION OF THE MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION

The Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission (MFRETC) is a state Commission whose central mission is to support Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services in their goal to protect life and property by providing oversight of issues relating to the training and education of fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel. Created by legislative mandate* to be the state-level coordinating agency for the education and training of Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services, the Commission ensures that local jurisdictions responsible for the delivery of these services have access to the best possible programs to train and educate their personnel.

The Commission is a division of the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), under the authority of the Secretary of Higher Education, Dr. James Fielder, and consists of 13 members who are state officials appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The membership of the Commission includes six volunteer fire and EMS service members, either instructors or providers, three career fire and EMS instructors, three career providers, and one member appointed from the general public. Commission members are selected for their experience, knowledge, and ability to effectively understand the needs of the fire and EMS service systems, to work with its stakeholders, and to balance the needs of providers, stakeholders, and service customers.

Through collaboration, cooperation, and recommendation, the Commission works to improve all emergency services education and training activities. To do this, the Commission's duties include:

- Developing and maintaining a master plan for emergency services education and training;
- Ensuring high-quality standards for instructors, providers, and schools;
- Ensuring standardized course content and reciprocity of college credits;
- Ensuring the development and operation of a system for collecting, analyzing, and exchanging information on emergency services education and training;
- Researching and reviewing national standards, best practices, current research, and materials from other states and federal agencies on emergency services education and training;
- Encouraging, promoting, and reviewing new techniques, methods, and procedures for emergency services; and
- Recommending to the Secretary rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes and objectives of the Commission.

More specific information regarding the specific statutory responsibilities of the MFRETC is available in the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

**Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, Title 11, §11-501-503, 2014 Replacement Volume.
(See Appendix for full text)*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission (MFRETC) is a state Commission whose mission is to oversee issues relating to the training and education of Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel.

The Commission is a division of the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), and consists of 13 members who are state officials appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The membership of the Commission includes six volunteer fire and EMS service members, either instructors or providers, three career fire and EMS instructors, three career providers, and one member appointed from the general public. Commission members are selected for their experience, knowledge, and ability to effectively understand the needs of the fire and EMS service systems, to work with its stakeholders, and to balance the needs of providers, stakeholders, and service customers.

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- Encouraging, promoting, and reviewing new techniques, methods, and procedures for emergency services; and
- Recommending to the Secretary rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes and objectives of the Commission.

More specific information regarding the specific statutory responsibilities of the MFRETC is available in the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

During fiscal 2018, the Commission has done valuable work toward ensuring high quality emergency services training and education programs are accessible statewide. In addition, the Commission has focused its attention on several primary areas:

- Assuring the membership of the Commission represents the needs of both customers and the industry, career and volunteer;
- Assuring the Commission is effectively performing its statutory duties, that it is effectively internally structured to continue to do so, and that it is prepared to adapt to changes in service demand and industry changes in how education and training is provided;
- Assuring the Commission has a plan to address emerging issues, such as training for active assailant threats and community paramedicine, as well as assuring that Maryland's standards are both compliant with national standards and best practices, and that the ongoing body of research is incorporated into educational curricula.

Six regular Commission meetings were held. Minutes of these meetings are available on the Maryland Higher Education Commission’s website, www.mhec.maryland.gov, or upon request.

The past year has seen significant changes to the Commission membership. With the departure of longtime Commission Chair R. Michael Clemens, a Commission member, Chief John Jerome, has been appointed as his replacement. Additionally, Chief Eric Proctor and Chief Kevin Lewis joined the Commission, representing volunteers and career personnel, respectively. Dr. Daniel Madrzykowski was also appointed to the represent the public. These membership changes have spurred examination of the current internal committee structure, and the Commission is now undertaking an examination of ways in which reorganization might help contribute to meeting its numerous responsibilities.

In 1980, the Commission established the Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board (MICRB) as a mechanism to ensure uniform training and instruction standards throughout the State of Maryland. This Board, comprised of membership from the MFRETC, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), the Maryland Council of Fire and Rescue Academies, the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI), and the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), has the responsibility of certifying instructors and trainers throughout the state in accordance with national standards and best practices. As the needs of the fire and rescue services continue to evolve, the MICRB similarly continuously reviews Maryland standards. Every two years, the MICRB undergoes a substantive review of its standards and recommends needed changes to the Commission for approval. During 2018, the MICRB is currently undergoing this regulatory review.

In 2014, Maryland joined with the majority of other states in adopting the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) model for practice standards, knowledge and competency testing, and certification for the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) level of care. Maryland had already been utilizing NREMT models of standards, testing, and certification for the Cardiac Rescue Technician and Paramedic level of emergency medical care for many years. This meant that rather than utilizing a home-grown, Maryland-unique, standard for EMT competencies, Maryland adopted a national standard for what an EMT should be, and a national standard for evaluating if such competencies have been learned to achieve certification. In addition to ensuring that providers are being taught to a national standard, utilizing this method of testing and certification increases the opportunities for reciprocity of provider certifications between states. This change, however, resulted in lower passage rates than both years prior to this implementation as well as relative to national standards. During 2016, the hard work of MFRI, the local fire rescue training academies, MIEMSS, the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), and others led to passage rates that exceeding the national average. While passage rates in 2017 declined slightly, MFRI and the local fire rescue training academies continue to implement a number of initiatives designed to increase student success.

National Registry exam passage rates, 2017

	# Attempted	Pass 1 st Attempt	Pass 3 rd attempt
MFRI Totals	803	533 66.4%	612 76.2%
National	71,611	50,289 70%	56,915 79%

Recruitment for the volunteer fire and rescue services continues to present challenges, particularly for EMS providers. One drawback of the new certification system also means that in many jurisdictions class time has increased substantially, which continues to impact recruitment for EMTs. Over the past year, the last county in the state that maintained all-volunteer EMS systems – Calvert County – approved the hiring of paid EMS personnel to help alleviate the difficulties caused by increasing demand for Advanced Life Support (ALS) providers. The MSFA continues to develop enhanced recruitment and retention efforts to increase the number of fire and rescue service members. Additionally, many districts have implemented initiatives, such as tax credits and tuition waivers or scholarships, intended to address these issues at a local level.

An additional ongoing concern of the Commission is the Charles W. Riley Fire and Rescue and Ambulance Squad Member Scholarship program. As discussed within previous years' reports, the 2015-2016 academic year was the first academic year in which students were eligible for funding through the Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship, formerly the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services Reimbursement Program. Three years later, the transition from a reimbursement to a scholarship program continues to pose several challenges for recruitment and marketing. Since the scholarship program was implemented, the number of applicants for the scholarship program has been substantially lower than those who had received funding during the previous reimbursement structure. While the number of applicants has increased at a steady pace, from 89 for the 2015-2016 academic year to 120 in 2017-2018, many students continue to fail to submit full documentation necessary to demonstrate their eligibility or do not meet eligibility criteria, particularly the March 1 FAFSA deadline as required by statute. Of the 120 applicants for the past academic year, only 33 students received the award. MFRETC continues to work closely with MHEC outreach staff, other state agencies, and local academies and departments to increase awareness and visibility of the program, as well as ensuring that students are aware of and complying with documentation requirements. This will be a key focus of the Higher Education Committee of the MFRETC in upcoming years.

In 2018, the opioid overdose epidemic, both in Maryland and nationally, continued to surge. In 2017, the Governor issued an executive order establishing an Inter-Agency Heroin and Opioid Coordinating Council, authorizing the creation of the Maryland Opioid Operational Command Center (OOCC). Following the recommendations of the OOCC, the Governor declared a State of Emergency to address the emergency management aspects of dealing with this epidemic. Both the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and MIEMSS, two constituent agencies of the MFRETC, play significant roles in the operation of this Center. Overall coordination for statewide emergency planning, as well as support for local jurisdiction planning, is the responsibility of MEMA. Statewide protocols have been created by MIEMSS for the administration of naloxone, an overdose-reversing medication, which now used in training curricula across the state by many training agencies. Several EMS systems are also involved in "follow-up" visits as part of a community paramedicine program, aimed at facilitating access to rehabilitation of opiate-abuse EMS patients.

In addition to the nationwide opioid overdose crisis, there has been a substantial increase in active-assailant incidents nationwide, resulting in concern regarding the existence or establishment of response protocols. In 2018, the Governor issued an Executive Order directing the Maryland Active Assailant Emergency Work Group, to work to develop coordinated active-assailant response plans. This directed the Maryland State Police, who have responsibility for leading statewide protection efforts, to work with a Work Group comprised of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, the

Maryland Department of Health, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention of Maryland, the MFRETC, and MEMA, along with subject matter experts from a number of both State and Federal departments and agencies, to create a statewide response plan, along with local jurisdiction and executive agency plans. The Work Group was also tasked with updating the existing "Guidance to First Responders for the Active Assailant Incident", including protocols for prevention, protection, information-sharing, community preparedness, outreach, and education. The involvement of the MFRETC is critical in ensuring that these protocols meet the unique needs of the fire and rescue services in disaster response.

Mental health of first responders is an emerging issue throughout the fire and rescue service. Involvement in the fire and rescue services involves responding to events and incidents that can cause significant stress that has short-term and long-term effects. For many years, the stigma associated with mental health issues prevented first responders from seeking assistance. However, there is an increased emphasis on awareness of conditions such as depression and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and how these might contribute to short-term and long-term consequences such as suicide. The Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance, the National Volunteer Fire Council, the International Association of Firefighters, and others have worked together in creating national programs and best practices focusing on the mental health of first responders and peer support. Throughout Maryland and nationwide, fire and rescue departments are working to create a culture that eliminates stigma in asking for help with mental and behavioral health issues that may prevent first responders from seeking this critical help.

MFRETC COMMITTEES, MEMBERSHIP, AND CHARGE

The MFRETC continues to pay close attention to the fire, rescue, and emergency medical services training requirements that are necessary to be in compliance with state and national standards, accreditation requirements, and certification systems. In order to do so, the Commission works under a committee system. While evaluation of the current committee structure and missions is currently underway, a summary of the four current committee's activities follows.

Through its membership and committees, the MFRETC continues to serve the fire and emergency services community by cooperating with training academies, training institutions, colleges, universities, county, municipal, and volunteer departments to coordinate the state's emergency services education and training system. In part, this is done through the work of the following MFRETC committees. Committee membership may include individuals who are not members of the MFRETC; these individuals are identified by their affiliation. The work of all who have made contributions is acknowledged and sincerely appreciated. This year's committees included the following:

Executive:

John Jerome, Chair

Lynn D. Gilroy, Vice Chair

This committee directs, coordinates, and monitors all activities of the MFRETC, acts as liaison to each of the other committees, and serves as the central point of contact for MHEC.

Higher Education:

Kiona Black, Chair
Jennifer Aubert-Utz
John Jerome

Lynn Gilroy, Liaison
John Dulina

This committee reviews the current status and projected need of Maryland's college-level programs in the fire and emergency medical services disciplines. The Higher Education Committee also reviews proposed programs for compatibility with current fire and rescue standards and workforce needs. It also examines the status of state funding for education and training programs. Finally, this Committee oversees the Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship program. Mr. Riley, the person for whom this program is named, served as chairman of the MFRETC for 14 years and was a past president of the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

Minimum Standards:

Dan Stevens, Chair
Mike Davis (MSFA)

Lynn Gilroy, Liaison
Larry Preston (MFRI)

This committee facilitates the MFRETC's review, development, coordination, and dissemination of state standards, guidelines, protocols, and approval processes for emergency services training. Particular attention is given to any proposed or adopted federal or state standards, and program reviews. This committee also has the responsibility of working with MFRI to update the MICRB Orange Book regulations every 2 years.

Special Projects:

Barbara Knippenburg
Bob Cumberland

Pat Marlatt (MFRI)
MikeClemens, Liaison

This committee prepares and recommends a plan of action for the MFRETC that will identify and set priorities for meeting the future education and training needs of the state's emergency services training system. This committee encompasses planning, training center enhancements, and weapons of mass destruction/National Incident Management Systems awareness. The Heavy Driver Training Facility Task Force has also worked under the leadership of the Special Projects Committee.

MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION MEMBERS

As previously noted, the members of the MFRETC are state-appointed officials who are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Per statute, the Committee membership consists of six volunteer emergency services personnel or instructors, three emergency services instructors who are career personnel representing the academies, three career personnel who are not instructors, and one member of the general public.

CHAIR – Deputy Chief John Jerome
Westminster, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2015

Deputy Chief John Jerome was appointed to the Commission in October 2011. He currently serves as Deputy Fire Chief and Department Executive Officer for the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services. He previously served as the bureau chief responsible for education and training, overseeing the planning, curriculum development, and delivery of all training for the career and volunteer members of the organization. He has been an instructor for EMT, paramedic, fire, and fire service management courses since 1996. Prior to beginning his career in Howard County in 1993, he served for five years as a volunteer firefighter/paramedic for the Ellicott City Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Jerome's education includes a Master's degree in Instructional Systems Development (2018), a Post-Graduate Certificate in distance education (2013), and a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and emergency health services management (1991). He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program (2008), and has been a firefighter and paramedic for 28 years. Mr. Jerome represents career emergency services personnel.

VICE CHAIR – Captain Lynn D. Gilroy
La Plata, Maryland

Term: 4 Years from July 1, 2014

Captain Lynn D. Gilroy was first appointed to the Commission in 1999. He has been associated with the fire service for over 50 years. Mr. Gilroy is a Member and Treasurer of the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, where he has served since 1992. Mr. Gilroy is a member of the Maryland State Firemen's Association and has been involved in that organization in a variety of capacities for more than thirteen years. He is the past president of the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association. Additionally, he is a MICRB-certified State Emergency Services Instructor, and is a Field Instructor for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. Mr. Gilroy retired from the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority Fire Department at Reagan National Airport for whom he worked as a Captain and shift training officer. Mr. Gilroy recently served on the town council for La Plata, Maryland, as Councilman for Ward 3. He is presently the Vice Chair of the Maryland Fire & Rescue Education and Training Commission, and was reelected for an additional term extending from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Mr. Gilroy represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

Assistant Chief Jennifer Aubert-Utz
Parkville, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2015

Assistant Chief Jennifer Aubert-Utz was appointed to the Commission in 2016. Chief Utz began her fire service career as a volunteer EMT in Carroll County, Maryland in 1992. She was hired by the Baltimore County Fire Department in February 2000 as a Firefighter/EMT and

currently serves as an Assistant Chief. Prior to her most recent promotion, Chief Utz served as the training chief for Baltimore County. She is a certified Maryland State Emergency Services Instructor, as well as an adjunct instructor at the National Fire Academy. Chief Utz's education includes a Master of Science degree (2012), and a Bachelor of Science degree (2011); both in Management and with an emphasis in Public Safety Leadership from the Johns Hopkins University. She is also a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program (2015). Chief Utz also serves on the Maryland Advisory Council to the Center for the Study of Health Effects of Fire. Ms. Aubert-Utz represents career emergency services personnel.

Kiona L. Black
Thurmont, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2016

Instructor Kiona Black was appointed to the MFRETC in 2016. Ms. Black currently serves as an instructor for the Maryland Fire-Rescue Institute, acts as a reviewer for the EMT Refresher curriculum and Instructor Evaluator, and mentors new instructors. In addition, Ms. Black continues to serve as a part-time emergency services instructor for the Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services and developed and coordinated the implementation of a new online training and records program for the Department. Ms. Black is a life member of the Citizens Truck Company in Frederick, Maryland, where she is a Firefighter/EMT. Additionally with the company she has served as an Executive Board Member, Secretary, Lieutenant of Training, and the company representative to the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association. Since 1989, Ms. Black has been a member of the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company, where she has acted as a Firefighter/EMT. During her time with Walkersville, she has additionally served as Membership Committee Chair, Lieutenant of Training, and Assistant Secretary. Ms. Black has also been actively involved with the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, having served as a company representative, Assistant Secretary, Secretary, and 1st Vice President. Ms. Black represents career emergency services instructors.

Chief Robert P. Cumberland, Jr.
Westminster, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2015

Chief Robert P. Cumberland, Jr. was first appointed to serve on the MFRETC in 1991. He is a 53-year active volunteer member of the Westminster Fire Engine & Hose Co. #1. He has served as Chief, Assistant Chief, Lieutenant, Vice President, and President. #1. Mr. Cumberland served as President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association from 1987-88. He served as Director for MSFA to the National Volunteer Fire Council, which he served on from 1988 to 2003. Mr. Cumberland also serves as the Out-of-State Coordinator and as a member of the federal legislative committee for MSFA. He is a past President of the Maryland Fire Chief's Association, served as Chairman of the Presidents Board of Advisors for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, and serves as a member of the Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy. In February 2014, Mr. Cumberland was appointed as a Delegate representing the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Fireman's Association to the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Board. He is currently serving as Director for the Cumberland Valley Fire Volunteer Fireman's Association. He continues to serve on numerous other MSFA and Carroll County Firemen's Association Committees. Mr. Cumberland represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

John E. Dulina
Middle River, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2014

John E. Dulina was appointed to the Commission in 2002. He has served as a Volunteer Firefighter/EMT and Chief Officer for many years with the Middle River Volunteer Fire Company, located in Baltimore County. He is an active member of the Maryland State Firemen's Association and the Baltimore County Volunteer Firemens Association. Mr. Dulina is Past President and Past Vice-President of Operations of the Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen's Association. Currently, he serves as President of the recently consolidated Middle River Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company and has worked extensively in planning the consolidation of Middle River Volunteer Fire Company and Middle River Volunteer Ambulance Rescue Company. Previously, Mr. Dulina was employed by the Baltimore County Public Schools and is currently employed by Maryland Emergency Management Agency as a Regional Liaison Officer. Mr. Dulina represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

Chief Barbara A. Knippenburg
Frostburg, Maryland

Term: 4 Years from July 1, 2016

Chief Barbara Knippenburg was initially appointed to the MFRETC in 2009. After completing her Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Frostburg State University, Ms. Knippenburg taught in the Allegany County School System for over 30 years. She began volunteering in the emergency services in 1978, when she joined the newly formed Georges Creek Ambulance Service, serving as a medic and chief officer for many years. After the completion of her fire training, she became a member of Midland Fire Company, where she has served in numerous offices including Assistant Chief and Treasurer. Currently, she is EMS Chief and Training Officer. In 1990, she became an instructor with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, teaching Rescue, Fire Fighting, EMT, and Instructor Trainer classes. Active in the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Ms. Knippenburg is a Past President and currently serves as Editor, producing the Association's monthly newsletter. In the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA), she has served on several committees and has been honored with the Hall of Fame, Josiah Hunt Award, and Firefighter of the Year. Recently, she has been appointed to the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund as the representative for Allegany and Garrett Counties. She has served on the Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board since 1998, representing MSFA. Ms. Knippenburg represents volunteer emergency services instructors.

Amber Leizear
College Park, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2017

Amber Leizear started her volunteer firefighting career in 1999 at the Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department in Brentwood Maryland where she is a 4th generation firefighter. She previously worked in the Institute Development Section and Field Programs Section of the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute. While at MFRI, she developed several programs in all disciplines to include Firefighter 2, Structural Collapse and most recently EMT. Amber currently holds her MICRB Certification for Instructor, Evaluator and Instructor Trainer. Her true passion is educational methodology for instructors. She is a member of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department in Prince George's County, Maryland. She currently is a Program Manager II for Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service managing all fire, rescue, hazmat and management programs. Amber is also a member of the MSFA Training Committee, MSFA Safety Committee, and serves as the Deputy

Director for the Maryland Chapter of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. Amber graduated from UMBC with her Bachelor's in Music Education and Master's degree in Instructional Systems Development. Ms. Leizear represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

Kevin L. Lewis
Williamsport, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2017

In February 2016, Kevin became the Director of Emergency Services for Training and Quality Assurance for Washington County, Maryland. There he oversees and participates in all public safety training including Communications, EMS, Fire, and Rescue. Prior to that he served as the Deputy Director for the Division beginning in 2006. He was then appointed the Director of Emergency Services and functioned as the Emergency Manager from 2008 to 2017. Kevin also services on the Maryland Incident Management Team where he is trained in several positions. Kevin has been involved in fire and emergency services for over 30 years. Originally he started in Frederick County as a volunteer Firefighter and Medic with Frederick County ALS. In 1987, he began as a career Paramedic with the Baltimore County Fire Department of which he resigned in 2006 as a Lieutenant. Kevin continues to volunteer with the Williamsport Volunteer Fire Department where he has served in several elected and appointed leadership positions. Kevin is currently a Maryland Firefighter and Paramedic. Kevin Lewis is a native of the Frederick County/Washington County area. He was educated in the Frederick County School System and graduated from Middletown High School. Kevin graduated from Hagerstown Community College in 1984 as a Radiologic Technologist. Kevin also graduated from the University of Maryland University College in January, 2017 with a Bachelor's of Science in Public Safety Administration. Kevin teaches part-time with the University of Maryland, Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute as a field instructor teaching fire and emergency medical services courses. Kevin serves on the Hagerstown Community College Paramedic Advisory Committee and also teaches there as an adjunct instructor in the Emergency Health Services programs. Mr. Lewis represents career personnel.

Chief Eric D. Proctor
Columbia, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2017

Chief Eric Proctor returns to serve on the commission after an initial appointment from 1999-2003. He began his fire service career in 1984 with Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services. Mr. Proctor retired as Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Education & Training responsible for education and training, overseeing the planning, curriculum development, and delivery of all training for career and volunteer members of the department. He currently works for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute on their Quality Assessment Team, and is a State Certified Emergency Services Instructor/ Evaluator. Mr. Proctor is a member of the Savage Volunteer Fire Department Inc. and represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

Chief Daniel J. Stevens
La Plata, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2017

Chief Dan Stevens was initially appointed to the MFRETC in 2001. A 50-year volunteer firefighter, he is currently a member of the Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department, Charles County

where he is a life member and an active riding member. Mr. Stevens has served his company as, chief, assistant chief, captain, and chairman of the board of directors. He is currently Coordinator of MFRI's Southern Maryland Regional Training Board in La Plata. He also serves as a member of the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association and EMS Association where he is Chairman of the County Training Committee. Mr. Stevens serves or has served on several committees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association. He serves on the Executive Committee and has served on several others including; Safety, Training, and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund. Mr. Stevens is an MICRB-certified State Emergency Services Instructor and works as a field instructor for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. Professionally, Mr. Stevens retired as the Director of the Tobacco and Peanut Analysis Group with the United States Department of Agriculture and was responsible for the management of both programs. Mr. Stevens holds an Associate Degree in Business from St. Mary's College of Maryland, a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Maryland and a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics with minors in statistics and finance from Texas A&M University. Mr. Stevens represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

No longer active Commissioners:

Chief R. Michael Clemens
Middletown, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2014

Chief R. Michael Clemens has served as a MFRETC Commissioner and MFRETC Chair from 2002 to 2017. His start in the fire service began in 1966 with the Mt. Rainier Volunteer Fire Department in Prince George's County, Maryland. Mr. Clemens is a Retired Assistant Chief of the Training Division for the Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service. In that capacity, he was responsible for all County Fire & EMS Training Programs. He is currently a member of the National Capital Region's Type 3 All Hazards Incident Management Team. He is currently the Program Manager for Montgomery County's accreditation program for the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). He was the Fire Service Project Manager for designing and overseeing the new Public Safety Training Academy in Montgomery County, Maryland. In 2017, he was recognized for his vision and design of the new Training site for Public Safety when Montgomery County named the new Fire High-Bay Fire Training Building in recognition of his legacy for the new campus in Gaithersburg, Maryland. He has completed his formal education in Fire Science with Montgomery College and is completing his degree with the University of Maryland University College in Fire Science and Business Management. He is now consulting for Public Safety Projects around the country. Mr. Clemens represented career emergency services instructors.

Scott Graham
Silver Spring, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2016

Mr. Graham's first term on the Commission began in 2016 and ended in 2018. He is currently the Directory of Emergency Preparedness and Workforce Wellness for Holy Cross Health in Montgomery County, Maryland. Prior to his current position, Mr. Graham served in the Montgomery County, Md. Fire and Rescue Service, retiring as an Assistant Chief in February 2014 after 26 ½ years of service. During his career, he served as a Maryland CRT, Nationally Registered Paramedic, firefighter, MICRB Level II certified fire instructor, ACLS, PALS, and was instrumental in creating both the 12 Lead and intra osseous programs for pre hospital providers.

Mr. Graham was a member of the MD-TF1 Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Team responding to numerous national man-made and natural disasters including the events of 9/11 and Hurricanes Sandy and Katrina. Mr. Graham served on the FEMA National Response System Advisory Board and was selected as the East Coast Task Force Leader representing the nine east coast US&R task forces. He served as the Executive Assistant Chief to two fire chiefs and as the department's PIO. He is a member of IAFF Local 1664. Prior to relocating to Montgomery County, Mr. Graham served as both a volunteer and career member of the Ocean City Fire Department. Mr. Graham served as a member of the MIEMSS Board from 2003 – 2009. He continues his fire service experience serving as the Assistant Chief of the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department and is a past member of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Graham represented the general public.

The Maryland fire-rescue education training system involves a number of different agencies and other entities. Industry training courses in fire, rescue, and basic emergency medical services (EMS) offered in Maryland are taught by instructors who are certified by either the Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board (MICRB) or by the Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) for advanced EMS training. The training programs offered are designed to meet or exceed applicable state requirements and/or national model standards. The National Fire Protection Association's Professional Qualifications Standards are the primary standards adopted by reference for fire-rescue service training, and EMS training standards are set by state law. Those successfully completing fire-rescue training are often eligible to be certified by the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (MFSPQB) as well as national certification entities. Emergency medical technicians and paramedics must be also certified or licensed by MIEMSS; MIEMSS additionally approves all EMS training programs offered in the state. The MFSPQB accredits all fire-rescue training academies and institutes.

Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI), University of Maryland.

The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute of the University of Maryland is one of the nation's top institutions of its kind. The nature and complexity of the issues and situations facing our dedicated emergency services providers on a daily basis continues to challenge them to train, exercise, and stand ready to respond to all calls for assistance. Through the industry of its staff, its regional training centers, and the monetary support of the University of Maryland and the state, the MFRI excels in providing this much-needed training at no cost to Maryland's fire and rescue services personnel. MFRI serves as a cornerstone of the state's emergency services education and training system.
www.mfri.org.

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS).

MIEMSS is a coordinated statewide network including volunteer and career EMS providers, medical and nursing personnel, communications, transportation systems, trauma and specialty care centers, and emergency departments. Among its many responsibilities, MIEMSS conducts and supports EMS educational programs and provides certification and licensure for all prehospital EMS personnel, including EMT-B (Basic Life Support), EMT-A (Advanced Life Support) and EMT-P (Paramedic). MIEMSS has also largely overseen the transition to National Registry certification, which makes Maryland one of the 46 states that utilize the National Registry for certifying its EMS providers. In addition to creating a national standard for competency, Registry certification also allows for reciprocity between states.

www.miemss.org

Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board (MICRB).

This Board, created by MFRETC, is promulgated under authority of the Code of Maryland Regulations to certify fire, rescue, and up to the EMT-B level, emergency medical, state instructors and instructor trainers. Every two years, the MICRB is required to complete a regulatory review of its certification protocols and updated its regulations to incorporate the most current national standards. The MICRB is currently in the process of this review.

www.mfri.org/cgi-bin/MICRB_Main.cgi.

Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (MSFPQB).

Also created by MFRETC, this Board is a recognized leader in the certification of individuals with fire service training and qualifications. Throughout the nation, Maryland's fire service certification system is the "model" system. The Board's concept and structure as a voluntary certification system with state-accredited local Accredited Training Review Agencies has been assessed and emulated by

a number of other fire service organizations, both nationally and internationally. Both career and volunteer personnel are certified as professional to the same standards. These individuals have access to an extensive number of different certification levels, ranging from firefighter to fire officer. This Board is nationally accredited by the National Professional Qualifications Board to offer 51 levels of certification and by the International Fire Service Accreditations Congress to offer 29 levels. Maryland also continues to be a national leader in the number of certifications issued. 2017 represented the 31st anniversary of the MFSPQB's involvement in voluntary fire service certification in Maryland.

www.mfri.org/mfspqb/

Local Fire, Rescue, and EMS Academies.

Local academies deliver both custom education and training curricula, as well as MFRI-developed curricula. Custom curricula are often designed to meet local needs, but can also include paramedic programs that are subject to the same national accreditation requirements and MIEMSS approvals that collegiate programs must meet. MFRI curricula can be delivered by local academies that are accredited by MFRI to do so. Several local academies are involved in delivering EMS and fire cadet programs in their local public school system.

Maryland's Colleges and Universities.

Programs available through the colleges and universities of Maryland include undergraduate, graduate certificate, and graduate degree programs in fire science, fire service administration, fire service leadership, emergency management, EMS management, EMS education, and Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology.

Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel: The members and staff of MFRETC recognize that it is through the dedication and will of the men and women of the emergency services, that critically needed fire, rescue, and emergency medical services are successfully provided in Maryland. These men and women are to be recognized for their efforts and commended for their work.

**MARYLAND COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC FIRE AND EMS PROGRAMS**

Anne Arundel Community College

Fire Management, Associate Degree
EMT-P, Certificate and Associate Degree
EMT-I, Certificate

Carroll Community College

EMT-P, Associate Degree

Cecil College

EMT-P, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Service Technology, Associate Degree

Chesapeake College

Emergency Medical Services, Certificate and Associate Degree
EMT-P, Certificate

College of Southern Maryland

EMT-P, Certificate
Emergency Medical Services, Associate Degree
Fire Science Technology, Associate Degree

Community College of Baltimore County

Emergency Medical Tech, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Protection Specialist, Certificate
Fire Protection Tech, Certificate
Fire Service Management, Certificate

Frederick Community College

Emergency Management, Certificate
Emergency Management Statewide, Associate Degree
Fire Service Administration, Associate Degree

Hagerstown Community College

Emergency Medical Technology – Paramedic, Certificate
Emergency Medical Technician, Certificate
Paramedic Emergency Services, Associate Degree
Paramedical Emergency Service: EMT-I to EMT-P Bridge, Certificate

Howard Community College

EMT-P, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Science and Leadership, Associate Degree (NEW PROGRAM)

Montgomery College

Emergency Preparedness Management, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire and Emergency Service Management, Certificate
Fire and Emergency Service Management Statewide, Associate Degree

Fire and Arson Investigation Certificate Statewide, Certificate
Fire Prevention Technology Statewide, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Protection Technology Statewide, Certificate and Associate Degree

Prince George's Community College

Fire Science, Associate Degree

Wor-Wic College

Emergency Medical Services, Certificate and Associate Degree

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Emergency Health Services, Bachelor's and Master's Degrees

Emergency Management, Certificate (Post-Baccalaureate)

University of Maryland, College Park

Fire Protection Engineering, Bachelor's and Master's Degrees

University of Maryland University College

Public Safety Administration, Bachelor's Degree – Fire Service Administration minor

Public Safety Administration, Bachelor's Degree – Emergency Management minor

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES ACADEMIES

Anne Arundel County Fire Academy

415 Maxwell Frye Road
Millersville, MD 21108
(410) 222-8360

Baltimore City Fire Department

Frank J. Trenner Fire Academy
6720 Pulaski Highway
Baltimore, MD 21237
(410) 396-9984-85

and

Public Safety and Training Facility (EMS)
3500 W. Northern Parkway
Baltimore MD 21215
(410) 396-1005

Baltimore County Fire Academy

802 York Road
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 887-7523

Carroll County Public Safety Training Center

50 Kate Wagner Rd.
Westminster, MD 21157
(410) 848-1488

Frederick County Public Safety Training Facility

Professional Services Bureau
5370 Public Safety Place
Frederick, MD 21704
(301) 600-2282

Hagerstown Fire Department Training Academy

25 West Church Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
(301) 790-2476

Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue

James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center
2200 Scott Wheeler Dr.
Marriottsville, Maryland 21104
(410) 313-1361

Montgomery County Public Safety Training Academy

8751 Snouffer School Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
(240) 773-8200

Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department Training Academy
9190 Commo Road
Cheltenham, MD 20623
(301) 856-2940

**MARYLAND FIRE AND RESCUE INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
(MFRI)**

4500 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20742

Director Michael E. Cox
Special Operations Assistant Director..... F. Patrick Marlatt
Field Operation Assistant Director Lawrence L. Preston
Headquarters (College Park) (301) 226-9900
Western Maryland Regional Training Center (301) 729-0431
North Central Office (301) 829-2020
North East Regional Training Center (410) 676-5409
Upper Eastern Shore Regional Office (410) 758-2112
Lower Eastern Shore Regional Training Center (410) 749-0313
Southern Maryland Regional Training Center (301) 934-2600

**MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEMS
(MIEMSS)**

653 West Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
(410) 706-3994

Executive Director	(Currently Vacant)
Medical Director	Dr. Richard Alcorta

Regional EMS Offices & Administrators:

Region I – Appalachia

Allegheny, Garrett

Casselman Ventures Bldg. #106
P.O. Box 34
Grantsville, MD 21536
Tel: (301) 895-5934
Fax: (301) 895-3618

Region II – Mid-Maryland

Frederick, Washington

201 S. Cleveland Ave., Suite 211
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Tel: (301) 791-2366 or (301) 416-7249
Fax: (301) 791-9231

Region III – Baltimore-Metro

Anne Arundel, Balto. City

Baltimore Co, Howard

653 W. Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
Tel: (410) 706-3996
Fax: (410) 706-8530

Region IV – Eastern Shore

Caroline, Cecil Kent, Dorchester

Carroll, Harford, Queen Anne's, Talbot

Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester

01 Bay Street Plaza, Suite 306
Easton, MD 21601
Tel: (410) 822-1799
Fax: (410) 822-0861

Region V – Washington-Metro

Calvert, Charles, Montgomery

Prince George's, St. Mary's

Marie Warner-Crosson
5111 Berwyn Road, Suite 102
College Park, MD 20740
Tel: (301) 474-1481
Fax: (301) 513-5941

Education & Certification

Terrell Buckson
Director, Licensing & Certification
Jim Brown
Director, Education Support Services
653 W. Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
Tel: (410) 706-3666 or
1-800-762-7157
Fax: (410) 706-2367

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX

ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND Education Article

Subtitle 5. Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission

§11-501 Definitions

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Commission” means the Maryland Fire–Rescue Education and Training Commission.
- (c) “Emergency services” means fire, rescue, and ambulance services.
- (d) “Schools” means the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, any emergency services training academy operated by any city, county, or municipal government, any community college offering emergency services education and training courses, any public school offering emergency services education and training courses, and any private or governmental institution or body providing emergency services education and training courses.

§11-502 Established; members; officers; meetings.

- (a) There is a Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission in the Maryland Higher Education Commission.
- (b)
 - (1) The Commission consists of 13 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Of the members:
 - (i) Each shall be qualified to deal with the matters within the authority of the Commission;
 - (ii) Six shall be volunteer emergency services personnel or instructors;
 - (iii) Three shall be emergency services instructors who are career personnel representing the academies;
 - (iv) Three shall be career emergency services personnel who are not instructors; and
 - (v) One shall be a member of the general public.
 - (2) Each member serves for a term of 4 years and until a successor is appointed and qualifies. These terms are staggered as required by the terms of the members serving on July 1, 1978.
 - (3) A member appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term serves only for the remainder of that term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.
 - (4) A member may be removed by the Governor:
 - (i) For neglect of duty; or
 - (ii) If the Governor believes the member’s continued membership is not in the public interest.
 - (5) Each member of the Commission:
 - (i) Serves without compensation; but
 - (ii) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses in accordance with the Standard State Travel Regulations.

- (c) (1) The Governor shall designate one of the members of the Commission as the chairman of the Commission. The chairman serves at the pleasure of the Governor.
- (2) Each year, the Commission shall elect a vice chairman and any other officer it requires.
- (3) The Commission:
 - (i) Shall meet at least once every 2 months;
 - (ii) May meet at any other time the chairman designates; and
 - (iii) May adopt rules for the conduct of its meetings.
- (4) A quorum consists of 7 members, one of whom shall be the chairman or vice chairman.

§11-503 Duties; staff services.

- (a) Subject to the authority of the Secretary, the Commission shall:
 - (1) Keep minutes of its meetings and any other records it considers necessary;
 - (2) Cooperate with and assist schools in coordinating and improving all emergency services education and training activities;
 - (3) Cooperate with the University of Maryland in developing a program for accrediting emergency services instructors;
 - (4) Consult with emergency services instructors and personnel to develop minimum uniform education and training standards for emergency services instructors, personnel, and schools;
 - (5) Cooperate with schools to help standardize course content and reciprocity of college credits for emergency services education and training;
 - (6) Cooperate with appropriate government agencies to develop and maintain a current master plan for emergency services education and training;
 - (7) Cooperate with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute to develop and operate a system for collecting, analyzing, and exchanging information on emergency services education and training;
 - (8) Encourage, promote, and review new techniques, methods, and procedures for emergency services;
 - (9) Cooperate with and review material from other states and federal agencies on emergency services education and training;
 - (10) Recommend to the Secretary rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes and objectives of the Commission;
 - (11) Review any proposed or adopted national standards or certification programs for emergency services and recommend to the Secretary the actions that should be taken regarding them;
 - (12) Prepare an annual report on the activities of the Commission to the Secretary, the Governor, and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly; and
 - (13) Provide a place of storage for the records of the Commission and the original Governor's Commission on Fire Services.
- (b) The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall provide staff services for the Commission.