

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

10:00 – 5:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
10:00 – 1:00 pm	MSFCA Board Meeting
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Career and Volunteer Meetings
2:30 pm	CONVENTION BEGINS
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Opening Ceremony and Welcome
3:00 – 5:00 pm	Leadership in the Fire Science Movement , Eddie Buchanan, Assistant Chief, Hanover Fire & EMS, Richmond, VA
5:00 – 7:00 pm	Vendor Social Event
7:30 pm	Storytelling/Campfire Gathering (BBQ included)

Thursday, October 12, 2017

7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 – 8:30 am	Welcome Back and MSFCA Business Session
8:30 – 10:30 am	An Alternative for Preventing Wildland-Urban Fire Disasters , Jack Cohen PhD, Research Physical Scientist, USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station (ret.), Missoula, MT
10:30 – 11:00 am	Networking Break with Vendors
11:00 – 12:00 pm	Leaving it Better off for the Next Generation , Eddie Buchanan, Assistant Chief, Hanover Fire & EMS, Richmond, VA
12:00 – 2:00 pm	Lunch and Vendor New Product/Technology Demos
2:00 – 3:30 pm	FirstNet , Mike Worrell, Senior Fire Services Advisor, First Responder Network Authority, Reston, VA
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Networking Break with Vendors
4:00 – 5:00 pm	Firefighter Stress, PTSD and Suicide; Saving the Lives of Firefighters Steve Heitman, Fire Chief, Mercer Island Fire Department, WA & Scott Geiselhart, Firefighter, Frazee MN Volunteer Fire Department
6:30 pm	Evening Event/Banquet (included)

Friday, October 13, 2017

7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 – 8:30 am	Welcome Back and MSFCA Business Session
8:30 – 9:30 am	Moving Forward or Falling Back: Planning for your Agency's Future Lane Wintermute, Western Regional Director, Emergency Services Consulting International
9:30 – 9:45 am	Networking Break with Vendors
9:45 – 10:45 am	Succession Planning / Mentoring , Norvin Collins, Fire Chief, Sauvie Island Fire District, OR
10:45 – 11:00 am	Networking Break with Vendors
11:00 – 12:30 pm	We've Been Working on the Railroad , Anthony Bacino, Chief – Safety & Security, Montana Rail Link Missoula, MT
12:30 pm	Closing Remarks

ADDITIONAL COMPLIMENTARY TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

FIRE RESCUE ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDANCE WORKSHOP

FRIDAY AFTERNOON THROUGH SATURDAY

INQUIRE ABOUT TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

<https://montanafirechiefs.com/chiefs-convention/>

2017 MSFCA State Chiefs Convention

Radisson Colonial Hotel

Helena, MT

October 11-13, 2017

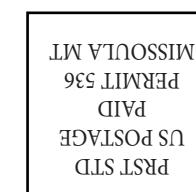


This convention is the premier event for Chief Officers and aspiring Chiefs in Montana. Through networking you will build relationships and engage in meaningful conversations with your peers. This alone will be worth your time to travel to Helena, not to mention the valuable education and training you will receive.

<<NAME>>
<<BUSINESS>>
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We invite you to attend the 2017 State Chiefs Convention, hosted by the Montana State Fire Chiefs Association, in Helena on October 11-13, 2017.

MSFCA
1236 North Ave. W.
Missoula, MT 59801
montanafirechiefs.com





Featured Presenters



Session #1: Leadership in the Fire Science Movement

With much focus on the latest research in fire dynamics lately, leaders struggle to find a common-sense path for themselves and their department. This program will highlight the key points for organizational change for fire departments and light a pathway forward that balances "aggressiveness" and safety.

Session #2: Leaving it Better for the Next Generation

A look at challenges facing the next generation of firefighters and a discussion of how the leaders of today can better position their departments for success after their retirement. Finding the balance of honoring traditions while pushing organizations forward will be a focus.



Eddie Buchanan, Assistant Fire Chief, Hanover Fire & EMS, Richmond, VA

Eddie Buchanan began his fire service career in 1982 and is an assistant chief with Hanover Fire & EMS in Richmond, VA. He is a past president of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors and is the 2015 recipient of the George D. Post, Instructor of the Year Award from the ISFSI. He serves on the executive advisory board of Fire Engineering Magazine and FDIC and is author of the Volunteer Training Officer's Handbook from Pennwell Publishing. He serves on the NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Service Training and the newly formed NFPA 1700 Committee. He is a past board member of the Volunteer/Combination Officer's Section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and serves on a variety of advisory boards and committees for the fire service industry. Chief Buchanan is known for the creation of the SLICE-RS concept that is part of the ISFSI Principles of Modern Fire Attack Program.

Chief Buchanan has an Associate's Degree in Fire Science from J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Richmond in Human Resources Management.

An Alternative for Preventing Wildland-Urban Fire Disasters

The presentation will describe how wildland-urban (WU) fire disasters occur and why the current incident response approach is failing to prevent disastrous residential destruction. The inevitability of wildfires during extreme conditions suggests that WU fire disasters are inevitable as well. However, the presentation will show how home ignitions during extreme wildfires are determined by local conditions of a home in relation to its immediate surroundings and not a problem of controlling wildfires. This provides the opportunity to readily reduce home ignition potential by mitigating ignition factors of a house and the surrounding area within 100 feet - called the home ignition zone (HIZ). The HIZ ignition mitigation approach provides an effective alternative for preventing WU fire disasters without necessarily excluding and controlling extreme wildfires.

Jack Cohen PhD, Research Physical Scientist, USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station (ret.)



Dr. Jack Cohen has been involved in wildland fire research since 1972 and was a research scientist at US Forest Service fire laboratories in Missoula, MT, Riverside, CA and Macon, GA. He co-developed the U.S. National Fire Danger Rating System and contributed computational methods to U.S. fire behavior prediction systems (1976 – 1981). He conducted research on live fuel fire behavior in southern California chaparral, developed the FIRECAST fire behavior prediction system, and served on wildfire suppression teams as a fire behavior analyst (1981 – 1987). More recently (2007 – 2016) he conducted theoretical and experimental research that revised international thinking about the fundamental processes governing how wildland fires spread. This research was published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2015).

Dr. Cohen has been interested in understanding the wildland-urban (WU) fire problem since the 1970s, but he formally started his research on how structures ignite during wildfires in 1989. Using computational modeling, laboratory and field experiments, and WU fire disaster investigations, he identified the limited area that principally determines structure ignition potential during extreme wildfires and developed the home ignition zone (HIZ) concept. He has applied this understanding to create the National Fire Protection Association's "Assessing Structure Ignition Potential from Wildfire" training and Firewise Communities USA program. Dr. Cohen retired from the US Forest Service in 2016 but continues his involvement in developing effective methods for preventing WU fire disasters.

Firefighter Stress, PTSD and Suicide; Saving the Lives of Firefighters

This session will highlight the issue of Firefighter Suicide in today's Fire Service. Attendees will be educated on stress and the physical impacts associated with it, comorbid issues such as PTSD and substance abuse, the process that leads a firefighter to commit suicide, and some of the tools available for negating this problem. Individuals will have the ability to recognize the signs and symptoms of employees who may be experiencing stress, PTSD, other related mental health issues, and have a program in place designed to get them the help they need at multiple levels.



Steve Heitman, Chief, Mercer Island, WA Fire Department and Scott Geiselhart, Firefighter, Frazee, MN Volunteer Fire Department

Steve Heitman is currently the Fire Chief for the Mercer Island Fire Department, located in Washington State, where he started his fire service career in 2001. He holds three Associates Degrees, A Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Safety Administration, and a Master of Arts Degree in Security Studies (Homeland Security and Defense) from the Naval Post Graduate School. In addition, he earned his Executive Fire Officer (EFO) in 2012 and his Chief Fire Officer (CFO) in 2013. His Master's thesis was titled, "Suicide in the Fire Service: Saving the Lives of Firefighters", and was recently released and distributed by the Naval Post Graduate School. In addition, he is a military veteran, serving with the 2nd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment from 1987-1990, and was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant. He has been married to his wife Darla for 21 years and has three children ages 17, 15, and 11.



Scott Geiselhart, a 21-year member of the Frazee MN Fire department. For years Scot was getting short tempered, angry, and verbally abusive. He was having nightmares every night. Life got to be so bad that Scott locked himself into his shop with his gun and in a single misfire moment got a second chance at life. Scott believes divine intervention saved his life that day and was determined to find out why. He searched the internet after the suicide in an attempt to find answers.... and he found them. "I had PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) and I didn't even realize it – my symptoms were right there". Scott will share his journey through the years of confusion and the incredible transformation and recovery into Post Traumatic Success.



We've Been Working on the Railroad: Collaborative Safety Efforts between Montana Railroads and Emergency Responders

Tony will focus on the collaborative safety effort between the railroads and Montana's Emergency Responders. He will cover from the "crude" beginnings to the current relationships that have us on the same track.

Anthony Bacino, Chief – Safety & Security, Montana Rail Link

Tony provides direct Security and Hazardous Materials program for Montana Rail Link and provides safety guidance for field forces. He has served as the MRL representative on SERC in Montana as well as numerous LEPC's across MRL system. He provides community training in Railroad Safety, Hazardous Materials, and Grade Crossing Accident Investigation. Tony is the State Coordinator of TRANSACER, the liaison with Police, Fire, EMS and Emergency Preparedness Agencies and supervises MRL internal Hazmat Team.

Moving Forward or Falling Back: Planning for your Agency's Future

"Moving Forward or Falling Back: Planning for your agency's Future" takes an in depth look at the changes that face today's public safety agencies and the importance of planning for the future. Areas discussed include long range master planning, organizational strategic planning as well as how public safety agencies may pursue shared service delivery through cooperative efforts including merger, consolidation and other forms of collaboration.



Lane R. Wintermute – Western Regional, Director, Emergency Services Consulting International

Lane Wintermute has served as a Fire Chief for 25 years in both cities and fire districts in three states. His service began at Oregon's Hoodland Fire District where he served for five years, rising through the ranks from Firefighter and Paramedic to Fire Chief. He was Fire Chief in the City of Astoria, OR from 1987 to 2001, at which time he moved on to become Fire Chief for Longview, WA. He wrapped up his career as a chief in the Coeur D'Alene, Idaho area.