



Wisconsin Fire & EMS

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP COALITION

COALITION ORGANIZATIONS

Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin
WI Chapter; International Association
of Arson Investigators
Wisconsin EMS Association
Wisconsin Fire Chief's Education Association
Wisconsin Society of Fire Service Instructors
Wisconsin State Fire Chief's Association
Wisconsin State Fire Inspectors Association
Wisconsin State Firefighters Association

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About the Coalition

The Wisconsin Fire & EMS Legislative Leadership Coalition is made up of eight statewide public sector groups and state associations that represent all components and facets of fire and emergency medical services (EMS) interests. Founded in 1996, this group remains the leading coalition of emergency services organizations within Wisconsin. Throughout our history, we have educated and advised policy makers on hundreds of legislative initiatives. Legislators and state officials can be confident that when they receive information from the Coalition, they are truly hearing the voice of nearly 40,000 chief officers, firefighters, EMTs, emergency services educators, fire inspectors and arson investigators. Once the Fire & EMS Coalition takes a position, you can be assured of the united stand of everyone involved in the emergency services community.



The purpose of the Wisconsin Fire & EMS Legislative Leadership Coalition is to serve as a clearinghouse for the review of proposed legislation that may impact the delivery of Fire and EMS throughout Wisconsin and the Nation. The Coalition serves as a forum for member groups and associations to provide information and gain support for legislative initiatives it has chosen to undertake.

As a whole, the Coalition will communicate a position to the legislature only for which there is unanimous support or opposition from all of the member groups. If all eight organizations do not agree on a position, no stance is taken or communicated by the Coalition. Individual groups are free to communicate on their own. However, for the Wisconsin Fire & EMS Legislative Leadership Coalition to hold a position, all member groups must vote to hold the same position. When the Coalition takes a position, it is clearly the position of the entire emergency services community.

The delivery of fire and emergency medical services throughout Wisconsin is as diverse as those who provide these services. There are approximately 850 fire departments in Wisconsin made up of volunteer departments (82%), combination departments of at least one full time provider along with volunteers (12%), and full-time career departments (6%). There are more than 30,000 firefighters currently involved in the fire

service, with nearly 17,500 of them operating as volunteers, 9,150 paid-on-call, and 4,585 who make their career in the fire service.

While 32% of EMS is provided by the fire service, an additional 68% – or 10,000 more individuals – operate exclusively as EMS providers with no fire department involvement. There are currently 450 ambulance services operating with 16,000 emergency medical technicians and 6,000 first responders throughout the state.

Together, nearly 40,000 firefighters, EMTs, and first responders from approximately 1,100 fire and EMS providers impact the lives of millions of people each year in Wisconsin.

Together, these nearly 40,000 individuals and approximately 1,100 fire and EMS providers are among the largest of any group or industry in Wisconsin.

Every year, there are approximately 500,000 ambulance calls completed throughout the state. More than 100,000 runs are completed by the fire service. Nearly 350,000 fire inspections are made. Thousands of firefighters and EMTs, whether career or volunteer, receive initial

and ongoing education, while the public is educated through events like Fire Prevention Week, National EMS Week, at local events, through public service announcements, and at community presentations.

Together, the Wisconsin fire and EMS services impact the lives of millions of people by providing emergency medical care, fire suppression, fire prevention, fire inspections, and education. While some providers, mostly in larger communities, are paid for their services, others receive little or no compensation for their time, work, and dedication. In fact, if the communities throughout Wisconsin were forced to pay even minimum wage for a minimal crew to staff these services full-time, the annual costs would exceed 20 million dollars. To continue to operate with 40,000 individuals would require far greater expense.

Working together with each other and with Wisconsin state officials and law makers, the members of the Fire & EMS Legislative Leadership Coalition are able to affect much greater good than any single organization can on its own. In turn, legislators and officials have one place to turn in order to obtain the broadest, most complete information regarding any aspect of emergency services. The next time you have a question, are considering the introduction of legislation, or need support for an existing bill, make your first contact the Wisconsin Fire & EMS Legislative Leadership Coalition.



Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin (PFFW)

The Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin (PFFW) represents full-time fire fighters in 58 locals across Wisconsin. Our members include all the IAFF Locals in the State outside of Milwaukee. In many communities, we are both the fire fighters and the EMS system. The PFFW was first organized in 1935. One of our primary functions has been to represent our members and their families before both the Governor and the State Legislature. We actively participate in legislative debates to promote public safety issues, health and safety of fire fighters and EMTs, fire prevention and education, sufficient levels of state aid to our communities so they can provide the level of service their citizens expect and deserve, and for adequate disability and retirement benefits for our members and their families. The objectives of the PFFW include cultivating a closer feeling of friendship and fellowship among the fire fighters and emergency medical personnel of the State of Wisconsin. We seek the promotion of legislation to advance the interests of fire fighters and emergency medical personnel, to maintain and improve an effective pension law, to promote a safe and healthy working environment for fire fighter and emergency medical personnel, to promote emergency medical services as fire-based service, to protect the fire fighters and emergency medical personnel in their positions, and the maintenance and improvement of the right to collective bargaining for the fire fighters and emergency medical personnel in every department in the State of Wisconsin.

MEMBERSHIP	Unknown
PRESIDENT	Rick Gale
VICE PRESIDENT	Robert Baird
SEC/TREAS.	Michael Drury
LOBBYIST	Joe Strohl
TELEPHONE	608-251-5832
WEB	www.PFFW.org
SEC/TREAS. OF WI FIRE & EMS LEGISLATIVE COALITION	John Gee

WI Chapter: International Association of Arson Investigators

The Wisconsin Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators was first chartered in 1976. The organization is divided into five districts. This assures that all members have the opportunity to increase their knowledge in fire and arson investigation. The primary objective of the WCIAAI is the instruction of individuals for the purpose of improving arson investigation in the State of Wisconsin, and to educate the public concerning the arson problem in the state. In addition, we seek to unite for mutual benefit with those public officials and private individuals engaged in the control of arson and kindred crimes. We: provide for the exchange of technical information and developments; cooperate with all law enforcement agencies and associations to further fire prevention and the suppression of crimes; encourage high professional standards of conduct among the members; and we continually strive to eliminate all factors which interfere with the administration of justice. Education is our mission, accomplished through annual Spring and Fall Seminars. We also conduct specialized training in fire investigation within our five districts around the State. We encourage you to visit our web site and contact your District Director for details. All of this tested training can be applied as points toward national testing to become a Certified Fire Investigator.

MEMBERSHIP	500
PRESIDENT	Daniel Hughes
VICE PRESIDENTS	Don Henning Jeff Kubitz
SEC/TREAS.	Gene Brink
TELEPHONE	608-825-1967
WEB	www.wiaai.com
SPRING SEMINAR	First week of June
FALL SEMINAR	First week of November



Wisconsin EMS Association

The Wisconsin EMS Association (WEMSA) represents and supports the views and interests of our membership in Wisconsin communities by promoting education, sharing information, and facilitating legislative action. Founded in 1974, WEMSA currently has 7,500 individual members and 360 Service/Corporate members representing ambulance services, first responder organizations, and allied EMS organizations. The association is governed by a 12-member board of directors elected by the membership, and is run by six full-time and part-time staff members. The Wisconsin EMS Association hosts one of the largest EMS conferences in the United States with an annual participation of nearly 3,000. Publications include our bimonthly full-color magazine, *EMS Professionals*, and the *Hot Sheets* newsletter, published approximately every two weeks or as items warrant. Throughout its history, the organization has worked on a large variety of projects, including creation of the Funding Assistance Program (FAP), First Responder certification, Flexible ALS staffing, Public Access Defibrillation, the Length of Service Awards Program (LOSA), the removal and prevention of license fees for providers and services, administrative rules for both the Department of Health and Family Services and the Department of Transportation, and dozens of other projects and interests. Always seeking the input of its members, WEMSA continually obtains feedback and information through town hall type meetings, direct mail and Internet surveys, and focus groups. Backed with the latest knowledge and information, the Wisconsin EMS Association is *Your Voice For EMS*.

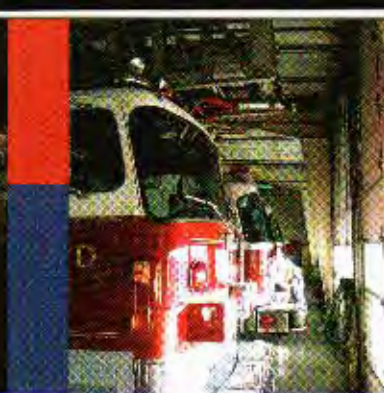
MEMBERSHIP	7,500 Individual 360 Corporate
PRESIDENT	Richard Meeker
EXEC. DIRECTOR	Don Hunjadi
LOBBYIST	Forbes McIntosh Broydrick & Associates
MEDICAL DIRECTOR	Dr. Michael Abernethy
TELEPHONE	800-793-6820
WEB	www.WisconsinEMS.com

Wisconsin Fire Chief's Education Association

The Association was formed in 1981 after a meeting where several career chiefs recognized the need to provide educational material specific to the full-time fire chief. In 2007, there are more than 100 identified career fire chiefs within Wisconsin, all of whom are eligible to participate in this association. The Wisconsin Fire Chief's Education Association (WFCEA) is closely aligned with the Wisconsin State Fire Chief's Association (WSFCA). To be a member of the WFCEA, a full-time chief must first be a member in good standing with the Wisconsin State Fire Chief's Association. The Education Association meets twice per year in the Spring and Fall to provide an educational forum to our members on a variety of topics that include but are not limited to fire and injury prevention, emergency medical services, fire suppression and rescue, current events, leadership, management, and human resource management. The mission of the Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Education Association is to foster continuing education, communication, networking, and political participation of a modern fire services chief officer. Association goals and objectives are to:

1. Provide regular educational seminars to its members
2. Provide for a forum of current issues affecting the fire services in the state of Wisconsin
3. Assist member chiefs with problems and concerns in their local jurisdictions
4. Provide a unified voice on issues with federal, state, and local legislative bodies
5. Provide career fire chiefs with a network forum for professional issues and concerns

MEMBERSHIP	Unknown
CHAIR	Gregg Cleveland
VICE CHAIR	Mark Barnes
SEC/TREAS.	Paul Guilbert, Jr.
TELEPHONE	262-694-8027



Wisconsin Society of Fire Service Instructors

The Wisconsin Society of Fire Service Instructors (the WSFSI) was formed in 1962 to serve the needs of fire instructors in Wisconsin. State Chapter #1 of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors assists local instructors through the exchange of ideas, dissemination of information, and the presentation of seminars and conferences. All of this is geared toward helping fire instructors in their personal development and assisting them in bringing quality education and programs to their own agencies.

The WSFSI currently serves more than 400 members throughout Wisconsin and is growing every year. Anyone involved in the many aspects of fire service education is eligible for membership. Membership benefits include the availability of instructional materials through the Society, a chance to enhance personal development as a fire service instructor, a chance to interact with people involved in service training, and representation on Wisconsin fire committees. The society produces two annual conferences throughout the year, and publishes the WSFSI newsletter, *The Flashover*. The WSFSI also hosts a column and articles in *The Dispatcher*.

MEMBERSHIP	400
PRESIDENT	Tom Vandenaek
VICE PRESIDENT	Susan Wanggaard
EXEC. SECRETARY	John W. Fulcher
TELEPHONE	715-258-6842
WEB	www.fireinstructors.org

Wisconsin State Fire Chief's Association

The mission of the WSFCA is to establish an environment and provide opportunities for emergency service and related professionals to network. The WSFCA seeks to accomplish this through providing political advocacy and leadership, emergency service related information and educational opportunities, and by providing members with fellowship opportunities. The WSFCA represents and supports volunteer, combination, and career chief fire officers in Wisconsin. Objectives of the WSFCA include: bringing Fire Chiefs, Chief Fire Officers, and their associates together to discuss Fire Prevention, Fire Protection, Fire Suppression, and Emergency Medical Services; to assist in maintaining high standards of personal and departmental efficiency; to seek aid and counsel from those experts in equipment, building engineering, chemical, and research fields; to cooperate with government agencies to promulgate and effectuate plans for all phases of civilian defense in which all fire departments may best serve their individual communities; to encourage the formulation of plans for mutual aid and assistance to communities that may be afflicted by wide-scale disasters; to help develop and expand public relations of the fire service at local, state, and national levels; to support all legislative matters that may be relevant, pertinent, and for the best interests of Fire Chiefs and the fire service; to sponsor continuing education for Fire Service personnel in technical and administrative fields related to the Fire Service; to sustain the high traditions of the Fire Service and to promote the welfare and protection of all its members; and to coordinate the efforts of all engaged in the field of fire protection to the end that such concerted action should achieve steady progress against the ravages of fire.

MEMBERSHIP	Unknown
PRESIDENT	Changes Yearly
BUSINESS MGR.	Jane Svinicki
ASST. BUS. MGR.	Kelly Lang
LEG. LIAISON	Dave Bloom
TELEPHONE	800-375-5886
WEB	www.wsfca.com

Wisconsin Fire Service

FACTS & STATISTICS

There are currently 863 fire departments in Wisconsin

701 volunteer
105 combination volunteer and paid
35 career
21 tribal, federal, or private



There are more than 30,000 firefighters in Wisconsin

17,365 volunteer
9,154 paid-on-call
4,585 career



There are more than 100,000 fire calls each year in Wisconsin

Fires 10%
Rescue Calls 63%
Hazardous 6%
Service Calls 6%
False Alarms 9%
Other 6%



Approximately 350,000 fire inspections are completed each year in Wisconsin

Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services

FACTS & STATISTICS

There are currently 450 ambulance services in Wisconsin

180 EMT-Basic Level
130 EMT-Intermediate Technician Level
20 EMT-Intermediate Level
110 EMT-Paramedic Level



There are more than 20,000 EMS Providers in Wisconsin

6,000 First Responders
9,200 EMT-Basic Level
2,800 EMT-Intermediate Technician Level
500 EMT-Intermediate Level
2,800 EMT-Paramedic Level



There are approximately 500,000 ambulance calls each year in Wisconsin

Trauma 25%
Chest Pain 9%
Difficulty Breathing 8%
Abdominal Pain 6%
Altered Level of Consciousness 6%
Stroke 4%
Over 15 Other Categories 42%

