



Mark Your Calendars – June 5-11 – SFFMA’s 132nd Annual Conference

Ford Park, Beaumont, TX

- **Pre-Conference Workshops on Thursday/Friday June 5th and 6th.** Four pre-conference tracks will allow all your fire department to gain additional continuing education credit by taking subject matter specific classes including:
 - **Firefighter Training Track I- Shaping the Future (NFA Course, 14hours)** -This 2-day course is the first of two courses on midlevel management covering the skills and techniques midlevel managers will need to provide leadership and direction for their departments. The first module focuses on identifying opportunities and/or problems. Topics include environmental scanning, paradigm shifts, and methods for reframing problems accurately. This course is intended for individuals presently assigned to management positions who supervise first-line officers; and administrative officers responsible for significant staff functions within the organization and who report directly to top management. (Instructor: *TEEX*)
 - **Firefighter Training Track II– Training Operations in Small Departments (2007 NFA Course, 16hours)** – This 2-day course is designed to provide students with some basic tools and skills to coordinate training in a small fire/EMS organization. Course content includes leadership issues in fire service training, identifying the legal issues, safety considerations, marketing training, etc. (Instructor: *TEEX*)
 - **Fire Marshal Track – Preventing Fire Risk Based on Socioeconomic Factors: Rural & Urban Settings (NEW NFA Course, 16hours)** – This new 2-day course will develop ideas and plans to address the high fire incidence among populations based on socioeconomic factors. Rural and urban settings are taken as samples. This course is designed for students who work in the field of prevention. (Instructor: *TEEX*)
 - **NIMS Required Training – NIMS 300 – All Mid-level Management –Federal/State/Local/Tribal/Private Sector & Nongovernmental personnel to include should take ICS-300, including:** Persons serving as command staff, section chiefs, strike team leaders, task force leaders, unit leaders, division/group supervisors, branch directors, and multi-agency coordination system/emergency operations center staff. ICS Staffing and organization to include: reporting and working relationships and information flow, Transfer of Command, Unified Command functions in a multi-jurisdictional or multi-agency incident, ICS forms, Resource Management, Interagency mission planning and procurement. (Instructor: *TEEX*)
 - **EMS Training**
 - Thursday - 8am – Noon – **ACLS for EMTs** - This course is designed to present the student information and skills practices to allow the ECA or EMT to better understand the concept of Advanced Cardiac Life Support. This course consists of lecture, audio/visual aids, and "hands on" skills practice that teaches the student to be able to hook up a heart monitor, spike an IV bag, assist with intubation preparation and much more. (Instructor: Scott Brinkley, Firefighter/Paramedic for Stephenville Fire Department)
 - Thursday - 1pm – 5pm – **Skills Lab** – This course is designed to demonstrate and allow skill practice of dual lumen airways by Basic EMT's in the prehospital environment. This knowledge will allow for better airway management and add more useable tools in treating both medical and trauma patients in need of airway management. (Instructors: Bill Gardner, EMT-P, Course Coordinator, Deputy Fire Chief, Leander Fire Dept, Damon Benton, EMT-P. Special Operations

Medical Instructor, Laerdal Medical Corp, Elizabeth Elliott, PA. Children Hospital, Instructor Baylor Medical School, Houston, Texas)

- Friday – 8am – 5pm – **Spanish for EMS Personnel** - Your patient speaks fluent Spanish; you don't. What do you do now? Designed for the non-native speaker, *Spanish for EMS Personnel* will enable you to obtain a patient history, complete the patient care report, improve your vocabulary and pronunciation, ask illness and trauma-specific questions, and best of all, how to encourage a short reply. Whether you are a beginner or *habla* a little, this course is for you! – (Instructor: Lynne Dees, LP, MFA, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine Education, UT Southwestern)
- **Training During Main Conference** – Multiple training sessions will be conducted during the main part of the SFFMA Conference over June 9th and June 10th. Tentative Course Topics include:
 - **NFPA 1851** – Are the new bunker gear standards affecting your department? This workshop will go over the new standards and the options for your department. (Instructor: *TEEX*)
 - **Fire Station 101 Construction and Financing** - We all understand how difficult planning and funding a new fire station can be. This session will benefit any department that is considering new construction or major renovations of a fire station – from a basic three bay to a regional training center. Topics covered will include needs assessment, location, design, land acquisition, budgeting, financing and legal considerations. Experts from the design and legal professions, as well as financial experts from the Texas Fire Facilities Fund will be on hand to answer questions and share key concepts designed to assist your department in completing your project smoothly, on time, and on budget. (Instructor: Texas Fire Facilities Fund, 2hours)
 - **Why Don't We Follow the Rules** - Why do we continue to have fire fighter fatalities with all the improvements in PPE and strategies and tactics that have occurred over the years? This program will look in depth at sixteen different fire fighter fatalities that have occurred during the past few years. We will be looking at the accident investigation reports to see what went wrong along with the recommendations to prevent these types of accidents from occurring again. (Instructor: TML, Ronnie Sexton)
 - **Recruitment/Retention** -Recruitment and retention is a local problem; the leadership, needs, and challenges are all local. We will explain how to find volunteers within your community. How to keep your people motivated. Understand the impact of leadership within your department (Instructor: VFIS, Roy Mercer)
 - **Certification Workshop** - Workshop provides an overview of the SFFMA Certification Program with emphasis on recent changes, along with a Q&A session with Certification Board member(s) and Administrator. Required CE for Certification Coordinators, and highly recommended for Fire Chiefs. (SFFMA)
 - **Grieving Behind the Badge** - Although life-threatening and highly stressful events such as firefighting, a child fatality, or the death of a fellow colleague have adverse reactions on firefighters, they receive little if any training or support to help them deal with emotional trauma. Grieving Behind the Badge will offer information and skills to help them cope with professional as well as personal tragedies. *The Sweeney Alliance* will provide an on-site training specifically designed by you for your department.
 - **Volunteer Certification Program A to Z** – Looking for a Custom Designed Training Program to Meet Your Department Needs? Learn how to train your members while keeping their interest, without burning them out, and get your members certified all at the same time. (Captain Calvin Poole, Manchaca Fire/Rescue, Harvie Cheshire, TEEX, Kevin Creamer, SFFMA)
 - **Instructional Techniques for Company Officers** - This course is designed to meet the needs of the Company Officer in fulfilling his/her primary instructional needs. The student is introduced to

instructional terms and methods proven effective in Fire Service Training. The course offers tips and techniques for planning and conducting successful training activities. The student plans a lesson from preparation through the testing step. (Instructor: *TEEX*)

- **“Going Combination – Do’s and Don’ts”** – There is no one way to create and operate your combination department. Chief Windisch will present various do's and don'ts to help you design your system for your community. (Instructor: Chief Fred Windisch, Ponderosa VFD)
- **EMS - He is Stuck in What?** - Agriculture related accidents and rescue situations that may arise. (Instructor: Scott Brinkley, Firefighter/Paramedic for Stephenville Fire Department)
- **EMS** – Roles, Responsibilities, Rules, and Guidelines for First Responder Organizations (Instructor: DSHS, 4hours)
- **Exhibit Hall Show**– On Saturday, June 7th, over 60,000 square feet of wall to wall fire equipment, apparatus and products. You don’t want to miss out on some of the latest fire apparatus and equipment at Texas’ largest fire exhibit show!
- **Statewide Firefighter Memorial Service** – This Memorial Service honors all those firefighters and auxiliary members across Texas who have passed away over the year. Special recognition is given to those firefighters who have died in the line of duty. This is Texas’ largest memorial service to honor those who have dedicated so many hours and sometimes their life to doing something that is rewarding and he or she enjoys.
- **SFFMA’s Business Sessions** – Time must be given to conduct the business of the association. With so many committees within the association it is important that everyone is kept up to date with the various committee’s actions, recommendations, and news. Reports from State Officials, the Executive Director and others, along with nominations and voting for those seeking office take place at these meetings.
- **Annual Statewide Awards:**

Firefighter of the Year	Photo Contest
Poster Contest	Pumper Team Races
- **Social Events – With an extensive training schedule and multiple meetings to attend, we have a few social events included too!!**
 - Annual Awards Dinner – The Tuesday night banquet is always fun as we recognize those who have participated in the various contests.
 - Hospitality Night – Food and Fun will be flowing as various cities, sponsors, our outgoing Presidents and people seeking office throw a reception on Monday evening.
 - President’s Reception – The SFFMA President and TFA President invite you to attend a reception to show their appreciation.
 - Host City Night – The local district and host city fire department welcomes you to the city with a kick-off host city night and fireworks.
 - Casino Trip – A trip to the casinos in Louisiana is being planned for Friday night.
 - Motorcycle Ride – Feel the need to get out and ride the country side? If interested, you may rent a motorcycle for the ride that will take you through the area.
 - Golf Tournament – The annual golf tournament will have firefighters competing for awards and prizes against fellow golfers.

The training at this conference is eligible for HB2604 funding! Apply at

<http://txforestservice.tamu.edu/main/popup.aspx?id=1662>

For additional information go to Convention News at www.sffma.org