



Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association

P.O. BOX 25052, NASHVILLE, TN 37202
WWW.TNFIRECHIEFS.COM

Dear Tennessee Fire Service,

I am honored and excited to serve this wonderful Association as your 53rd President. I am looking forward to continuing the mission of the Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association: To provide leadership to career and volunteer chiefs, chief fire officers and managers of Emergency Service Organizations throughout the State of Tennessee through vision, information, education, service, and representation to enhance their professionalism and capabilities.

This is my 30th year serving at the Ashland City Fire Department. I am here because of the leadership of Chief Chuck Walker, who took me to my first TN Fire Chiefs meeting to meet with a newly formed group, the TN Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Program. From that day forward he has allowed me to stay involved with the Association and has supported and pushed me to follow my goals and serve on the Board. I would also like to thank the men and women of the Ashland City Fire Department because you take care of things at home while Chief Walker, Chief Noe and I are involved throughout the state with the Tennessee Fire Chiefs. I would also like to thank my family and all the family members of the Ashland City Fire Department; we could not do what we do without all of you and your support at home.

I would also like to thank Chief Shane Ray and Ms. Vickie Pritchett with the National Fire Sprinkler Association. Thank you both for continuing to be supportive of me and the Tennessee Fire Service and encouraging me to continue my involvement with the TN Fire Chiefs Association. You both push across the nation with Fire Service One Voice with our U.S. Fire Administrator, Dr. Lori Moore Merrell, and I challenge all of us to join together as One Voice in the Tennessee Fire Service. Dr. Lori is another example of a Tennessean in service at the national level. #FireServiceOneVoice

Chief Josh Waldo, thank you for being with us, you traveled the furthest to be here tonight. In 30 days, you will be taking the podium in Dallas to become the President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and your Tennessee friends will be there supporting you. You will always be a Tennessee Chief, even when you are currently residing in Bozeman, Montana!

To the Members of our Association, I promise to keep the Association moving forward as the Past Presidents have before me. I will be completely transparent and in communication with Chief Martin to make sure we have a smooth transition, just as Chief Henderson did for me. I will give my all and make sure our mission is carried on. I will make sure that each of the following Committees continue to grow to better serve the Fire Service of Tennessee:

- The Hall of Fame Committee will have its first meeting this year lead by Chief Summers, Chief Duncan, Chief Lee Turner and Chief West as an advisor. The Hall of Fame program is to honor individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership to the TN Fire Service.

- The Chaplain's Section will be led by David Woody with peer-to-peer support training. We will continue to grow this program over the next year to assist out Fire Chief and Firefighters across the state.
- The Codes Committee led by Chief Duncan will keep working hard to make sure that the TN Fire Chiefs have a voice at the State Fire Marshal's Office on the importance of current and updated codes.
- The Legislative Committee led by Chief Windrow we are not going to give up in Tennessee. We are going to keep fighting the fight on the hill for what is right for the citizens and visitors of Tennessee. I challenge each of you to get involved with your legislators while they are at home and not wait until they are in Nashville. There is no one that is as passionate and understands the process better than Chief Windrow. We must all realize that the citizens of our great Volunteer State depend on us to speak up and educate legislators regarding fire and life safety issues. It is part of who we are, and the oath that we have all taken.
- The Mutual Aid Committee led by Chief Mitchell the TN Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid System is one of the leading models in the Country. We can deploy correct, accurate and available resources in a timely manner throughout TN or wherever else requested.
- The Professional Development Committee will be led by Chief Summers and Chief Fountain they will continue to ensure that we are getting the best training classes as well as what is currently happening in our industry.
- The Fallen Firefighter Memorial is so special to each and every one of us. Chief Eric Turner and Chief Gary West will serve on the Fallen FF Board representing the Fire Chiefs. The Memorial is state-of-the-art and is a place for us to honor and memorialize those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. I encourage each of you to sign your department up for the maintenance program to continue to keep memorial in top notch shape.

I am going to make it a goal of mine as your President to have a joint meeting with all the leaders of all the fire service groups in Tennessee during my time as your President. I want Tennessee to show leadership as Fire Service One Voice and let us all get on the same page from Legislation to Mental Health. I am going to make sure our Past Presidents are not forgotten; you are our history and that is important as you have seen this week. You mean a lot to the association, and we want you to be involved at the quarterly meetings.

The Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association has been the leader of the fire service organizations in Tennessee, and we have so many accomplishments to be proud of. I will have an open line of communication with the officers, the board or directors and all the members. My door is always open, and I would love to hear from you!

In service,

Brian Biggs

Brian Biggs
Ashland City Fire Department
President, Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association 2024 – 2025