



Strategic Legislative Objectives

Florida Fire Chiefs' Association

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STRATEGIC GOALS

- To be cognizant of any legislative issue affecting the Florida Fire Service.
- To support issues promoting the safety of employees, residents, and guests of our communities and State.
- To promote legislation allowing us to be more effective and efficient in fulfilling our responsibilities.
- To oppose mandates without clear and objective data supporting the benefit exceeds the cost.
- To generally oppose unnecessary regulations and licensing requirements.
- To utilize the Florida Fire Service Legislative Caucus as a means of communicating, educating, and build consensus on fire/emergency services issues.
- To respect the Home Rule Authority of our member agencies.

GENERAL

100. The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association supports initiatives which improve the health and safety of all Floridians.

Therefore, the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association will:

100.1 Support the stature and significance of the DSFM in the Florida Cabinet.

100.2 Support legislation and rules that would improve the quality and quantity of fire incident data reported to the DSFM.

100.3 Support legislation that enhances and eases fire incident collection and reporting.

100.4 Support continuance of legislation supporting the Safe Haven for Newborns initiative.

100.5 Oppose legislation that would impose unfunded mandates.

100.6 Support legislation that will allow alternative funding sources, such as CRA's to be used where appropriate.

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

200 The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association strives to ensure members of the fire service community are safely and adequately trained in fire suppression, prevention, public education, emergency medical services, and special operations in order to best serve the residents and visitors of Florida.

Therefore, the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association will:

- 200.1 Support funding for the Florida State Fire College.
- 200.2 Support legislation and/or rules that enhance recruitment and retention of Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Paramedics.
- 200.3 Oppose initiatives restricting the applicant pool for Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Paramedics.
- 200.4 Support legislation or rule allowing reciprocity between the DSFM and the Florida Building Code Administrator's and Inspector's Board.
- 200.5 Oppose establishment of mandatory certification programs.
- 200.6 Support legislation and rules to achieve a tobacco-free fire service. Specifically:
 - a. Requirement that any candidate for Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2 certification in Florida must submit an affidavit attesting the non-use of any tobacco product for the previous year (365 days).
 - b. Requirement that any Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2 certified on July 1, 2005 or later proven to use/have used any tobacco product beginning July 1, 2005 or later shall have his/her Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2 Florida Certification recalled and "de-certified."
 - c. Anyone with valid Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2 Florida Certification dated prior to July 1, 2005, and is employed as a career firefighter in Florida on June 30, 2005, shall be "grandfathered" and not subject to the loss of Firefighter 1 or Firefighter 2 Florida Certification for use of any tobacco product on or after July 1, 2005.
- 200.7 Oppose mandatory Pro-Board certification programs for Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Officer, Fire Investigator, Fire Instructor, and Fire Safety Officer.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

300 The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association will actively participate in Florida's "Domestic Security Strategy."

Therefore, the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association will:

300.1 Actively participate in any formal committees established to discuss policy and funding relative to the Fire Service role in Disaster Response.

300.2 Support legislative initiatives that ensure the Fire Service has input on all issues affecting us, which includes, but is not limited to:

a. Pursuing a Co Chair Position on the Domestic Security Task Force (DSTF), and each of the Regional Committees (RDSTF).

b. Pursuing representation on all established committees relative to Domestic Security and Emergency Management, which involve the Fire Service.

300.3 Oppose legislation that would transfer the "Chief of Domestic Security" from the FDLE to an elected office.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

400 The Florida Fire Chiefs' will support initiatives intended to enhance our ability to be more effective in providing high quality emergency medical services.

Therefore, the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association will:

400.1 Substantively participate in the rule development process of any organization affecting Emergency Medical Services delivery by our members.

400.2 Support the continued funding and future enhancement of the State EMS grant program.

400.3 Support initiatives expanding the role of EMS agencies in the delivery of non-traditional health initiatives.

400.5 Support legislation eliminating requirements for EMT & paramedic completion of educational courses on HIV & AIDS.

400.6 Support legislation that recognizes the most recent National EMS Education Standards.

LIFE SAFETY AND PREVENTION

500 Empirical evidence dictates Fire Prevention provides significant Benefit to Life Safety.

Therefore, the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association will:

500.1 Support legislation standardizing elevator and alarm panel keys.

500.2 Support legislation requiring the installation of fire sprinkler systems in new construction, manufactured homes and renovations are in excess of 50%.

500.4 Support legislation requiring fire sprinklers in all health care facilities and churches.

500.4 Support legislation for appropriate funding for fire research facilities.

500.5 Support initiatives standardizing requirements and standards for residential smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

500.6 Support initiatives that require local school boards to comply with code as overseen by the AHJ.

500.7 Oppose any legislation or rule that would weaken provisions of the FFPC.

500.8 Oppose legislation that would expand authority of the Florida Building Commission into fire code adoption and enforcement.

500.9 Support requiring fire service representation on the Florida Building Commission.

501.1 Support initiatives that apply the FFPC to agricultural processing facilities.

FIREWORKS

600 The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association supports initiatives promoting safety, education and regulations of fireworks.

Therefore, the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association will:

600.1 Support initiatives improving the enforcement of existing laws.

600.2 Support legislation that would give the right of confiscation to the local authority having jurisdiction.

600.3 Support legislation requiring a stamp or seal on legal fireworks indicating that it has been approved by the Division of the State Fire Marshal.

600.4 Support the promulgation of local ordinances or rules eliminating the sale and use of fireworks by the public.

TRANSPORTATION

700 The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association supports enhancing transportation safety initiatives within the State of Florida.