



MARSHAL MATTERS

OCTOBER 2023 EDITION

Marshal's Minute.....	2	Illinois School Safety Conference.....	18
Employee Spotlight.....	3	IFSI Minute.....	19-21
Small Equipment Grant.....	4	Illinois Fire Chiefs Symposium.....	22
Small Equipment Grant Q&A.....	5	OSFM DEI.....	23
National First Responders Day.....	6	2023 Raices Public Policy Conference.....	24
Brookport Fire Chief Bill Copley.....	7	McCormick YMCA Career Fair.....	25
Fire Prevention Week.....	8-10	Homewood-Flossmoor HS Career Fair.....	26
Fire Prevention Week Luncheon.....	11	Thanksgiving Cooking Safety.....	27-28
Libertyville & Rolling Meadows Open House.....	12	CO Safety.....	29
Highland Park & Polo Open House.....	13	Home Heating Safety.....	30
Winchester High School K9 Visit.....	14	Shout Outs/Kudos.....	31-32
World Mental Health Day.....	15	Kids' Corner.....	33
100 Club of Illinois Frontline Conference.....	16-17		

Marshal's Minute-State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera



The Small Equipment Grant Application Period remains open until December 15, 2023, and we know many departments who are wanting to apply have questions. We will be hosting three Q&A sessions to help answer questions regarding our Small Equipment Grant Program application. Our CFO will be available for fiscal questions, Grant Coordinator for general questions, Les Albert for tier and other application questions, and our NFIRS staff available for compliance questions. You may login at any time during the 2-hour sessions. Visit our website for login information for the November 8, 13, and 18 sessions.

Thanksgiving is the leading day for home fires involving cooking equipment, with four times the average number occurring. Ranges and cook-tops account for almost three out of every five home fires reported involving cooking, with ovens accounting for 13% of those fires. Cooking causes half (49%) of all reported home fires and more than two of every five (42%) home fire injuries, and it is the second leading cause of home fire deaths (20%).

According to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), each year from 2017 to 2019, an estimated average of 2,300 residential building fires were reported to fire departments in the U.S. on Thanksgiving Day. These fires caused an estimated annual average of 5 deaths, 25 injuries and \$26 million in property loss. U.S. fire departments respond to an average of 166,100 home fires per year involving cooking equipment.

Before you start to cook your holiday meals, make sure your cooking equipment is in working order and all ovens and cook tops are clean. Create a “Kid Free Zone” of at least three feet around the stove or anywhere you are preparing hot food or drinks. Never leave food that you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling unattended! If you leave the kitchen, even for a short amount of time, turn off the stove.

Frying a Turkey has become more popular in recent years.

- Make sure to not overfill oil in the fryer. Fill the pot you plan to use to fry the turkey with water and place the turkey in. This will help to determine how much oil is needed without causing oil to spill out when you are ready to fry, which could lead to a fire.
- Use the turkey fryer outdoors ONLY!
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and dry before frying.
- Use long cooking gloves that protect hands and arms when you handle the pot!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Employee Spotlight

Blake Fawns

Executive I

Fire Prevention

Where are you originally from? Sherman, Illinois

Tell us about your family? Kids, Significant other.... I married my beautiful wife, Kristen, in September of 2020. We have a little boy, Callum, who will turn two at the end of November. We also have two crazy dogs, a Yorkie named Luna and a Boxer named Sadie.

Favorite food(s)? Pizza from Dillon's Pizza and chicken n dumplings.

Hobbies? I am an avid motorsports fan, as well as a diehard Chicago Cubs fan, so I would say my main hobbies are going to races across the country and traveling to Wrigley Field to take in some Cubs action.

What's your favorite movie or book? I am going to give an example of each. My favorite movie is The Prestige, while my favorite book is The Name of the Wind by Patrick Rothfuss.

When you get in the car what type of music will be coming out of your speakers? 1990's country.

What did you want to be when you were a kid? A broadcaster for Chicago Cubs radio.

What's your favorite part of the job? Jeph Bassett's poetry.

What's something unique about you? I have four siblings (three sisters and one brother), and we were all born on either the 8th or 17th of the month.

Where is your favorite place to vacation? Anywhere with a beach. Though I would have to say that Key West has been my favorite place to vacation so far.

Where is your bucket list destination? Italy. I want to check out Rome, as well as the Formula One race in Monza. One trip full of sightseeing and Formula One racing!

Small Equipment Grant



The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) announces the application period is open for the Small Equipment Grant Program. The OSFM will award \$4 million to eligible fire departments and ambulance services for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment. All interested departments should send an application to OSFM electronically or postmarked no later than December 15, 2023.

The Small Equipment Grant Program was established to provide grants of up to \$26,000 to eligible departments. A total of \$1.5 million was awarded to 64 fire departments/districts and EMS providers across the state in March.

This program is an innovative approach to a problem that has long caused difficulties for the fire departments and not-for-profit ambulance services in Illinois, particularly those that have hardships in generating the necessary revenue for small equipment. The grants allow eligible applicants the opportunity to purchase small tools and equipment that they may otherwise not be able to purchase. In addition to firefighting personal protective equipment (PPE), applicants can also apply for personal infection control items such as masks, gowns, and gloves this application cycle. Most Illinois fire departments, fire protection districts, and township fire departments are eligible to apply. In addition, stand-alone, not-for-profit ambulance service providers are eligible to apply.

All applicants are required to have participated in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for a minimum of two years prior to applying. The OSFM will require departments to be current from September 2021 through August 2023 for this grant period.

Additional information including the application can be found here:

<https://sfm.illinois.gov/iam/firedepartment/grants-and-loans.html>

Completed applications should be submitted to:

Office of the State Fire Marshal
Small Equipment Grant Program
1035 Stevenson Drive
Springfield, IL 62703

Small Equipment Grant Q&A



Small Equipment Grant Q & A

What: The OSFM will have our CFO available for fiscal questions, Grant Coordinator for general questions, Les Albert for tier and other application questions, and our NFIRS staff available to answer questions related to compliance. Don't miss your chance for one-on-one assistance so you can help prevent mistakes on your application.

When:

Wednesday, November 8 10 AM to 12 PM
Monday, November 13 7 PM to 9 PM
Saturday, November 18 4 PM to 6 PM

Where:

These meetings will be hosted online through the Webex platform. Please visit our website sfm.illinois.gov to find the links to log in.

The OSFM will award \$4 million to eligible fire departments and ambulance services for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment. All interested departments should send an application to OSFM electronically or postmarked no later than December 15, 2023

National First Responders Day

Congress designated Oct. 28 as National First Responders Day in 2017. The day honors the paramedics, EMTs, firefighters, police officers and 911 operators who answer the call when a crisis arises, often putting their own lives on the line. Serving as a national day of gratitude, National First Responders Day pays tribute to their services to their communities and honors fallen first responders. National First Responders Day is also a call for action to support first responders.

Illinois State Fire Marshal James A. Rivera recorded this message sharing his gratitude for all that Illinois First Responders do for their communities.

<https://youtu.be/iFzkEm7ScfM>

Brookport Fire Chief 50 Years



OSFM’s Robert Beal presented Brookport Fire Department Chief Bill Copley a plaque honoring him for his 50 years of service with 45 of those as Chief. Congratulations on your retirement Chief and thanks for all you did to help keep the residents of your community safe!



Fire Prevention Week

Did you know that cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries?
Cooking safety starts with YOU.

Pay attention to fire prevention.™



FIRE
PREVENTION
WEEK™

fpw.org

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The OSFM joined organizations and fire departments across the state and nation and to celebrate the 101st anniversary of Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14. Thanks to Governor JB Pritzker for issuing a proclamation to honor the week. This year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention," focuses on cooking safety to help educate the public about simple but important steps they can take to help reduce the risk of fire when cooking at home, keeping themselves and those around them safe.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), cooking is the leading cause of home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; cooking is also the leading cause of home fire injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires and related deaths. In addition, NFPA data shows that cooking is the only major cause of fire that resulted in more fires and fire deaths in 2014-2018 than in 1980-1984.

Fire prevention doesn't stop after the week is over, it is a year-round project. As we enter the holiday season and kitchen become busy, this messaging remains very important.



WHEREAS, the state of Illinois is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and
 WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are in greatest risk from fire; and
 WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,800 people in the United States in 2021, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 338,000 home fires; and
 WHEREAS, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States and fire departments responded to more than 166,400 annually between 2016 and 2020; and
 WHEREAS, two of every five home fires start in the kitchen with 31 percent of these fires resulting from unattended cooking; and
 WHEREAS, more than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and
 WHEREAS, children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and
 WHEREAS, Illinois residents should turn pot handles toward the back of the stove, always keep a lid nearby when cooking, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around the stove, oven, and other things that could get hot, watch what they heat, and set a timer to remind them that they are cooking; and
 WHEREAS, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and
 WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires almost in half; and
 WHEREAS, Illinois first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and
 WHEREAS, Illinois residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and
 WHEREAS, the 2021 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention™," effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and not cavort when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 8-14, 2023, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this state and urge all residents to check their kitchens for fire hazards, use safe cooking practices during Fire Prevention Week 2023, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Illinois fire and emergency services.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
 this SECOND day of OCTOBER, in
 the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
 TWENTY-THREE, and of the State of Illinois,
 two hundred and FIFTH.



Alysi Bernard
 SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
 GOVERNOR

Fire Prevention Week



The Teutopolis Fire Protection District hosted elementary students at the fire house during FPW. They learned about fire safety, and they got to see what a fire fighter looks and sounds like if they need to come rescue them.

OSFM's Chris Bednarek participated in the annual Chief Del Thomas Fire Truck Parade in Bloomington. This annual tradition kicks off Fire Prevention Week. The annual parade was started back in 1982 by Del Thomas, who was then the fire chief in Hudson. Chief Thomas was also a member of the OSFM.



The Bethany Fire Protection District preparing to teach kids about fire safety at the Okaw Valley Elementary School during FPW.

Fire Prevention Week

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and deaths. Stand by your pan. If you leave the kitchen, turn off the burner.



NFFPA Learn more about cooking safety at fpw.org



Clubbing and cooking don't mix! After a night out, order in!

Find out more about fire safety at fpw.org

NFFPA

Open microwaved food slowly, away from the face.

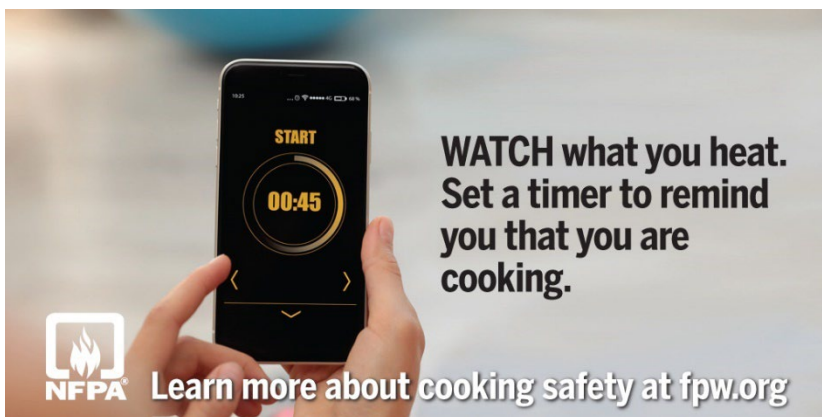


NFFPA Learn more about cooking safety at fpw.org

Keep the stovetop, oven, and the burners clean.



NFFPA Learn more about cooking safety at fpw.org



WATCH what you heat. Set a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

NFFPA Learn more about cooking safety at fpw.org

Fire Prevention Week Luncheon



Members from the OSFM, along with nearly 400 fire service personnel attended the 82nd annual Camp I AM Me by Illinois Fire Safety Alliance Fire Prevention Week Luncheon in Woodridge on October 12. The Governor's Fire Prevention Week Proclamation was on display in front of the podium and several fire service members were honored for their dedication to fire prevention across the state.

The Keynote speaker was NFPA's Andrea Vastis, Sr. Director, Public Education.

She spoke about Demonstrating Results: Evaluating your Fire & Life Safety Education Efforts. Showing evidence of results and impacts for community fire and life safety education efforts and how this is critical to attaining and maintaining resources and demonstrating the value of these programs.



Libertyville & Rolling Meadows Open House

SA Mitch Kushner and K9 GG attended an open house at the Rolling Meadows Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week. SA Kushner is pictured with Mayor Lara Sanoica.



SA Mitch Kushner and K9 GG stayed busy during Fire Prevention Week by visiting with folks attending the Libertyville Fire Department's Open House. SA Kushner and K9 GG are pictured on the left with Fire Chief Michael Pakosta and Mayor Donna Johnson.

Highland Park and Polo Open House



SA Mitch Kushner and K9 GG attended an open house at the Highland Park Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week. They conducted an accelerant detection demonstration and provided attendees with important fire safety information.

SA Mitch Kushner and K9 GG stopped by to visit with folks at the Polo, Illinois Fire Prevention Week activities. The Polo Mayor, Fire Chief, Police Chief and members from the police and fire department posed in this photo on the right. Members from the first responder community worked to provide safety messaging to those who attended the event.



Winchester High School Visit



SA Bobby Joe Brown and K9 Sasha visited with science students at Winchester High School. Students learned how Sasha can detect ignitable liquids at a fire scene. They performed a demonstration and talked about the daily training that they both do to stay on top of their game.



World Mental Health Day



October 10th is World Mental Health Day. The overall objective of World Mental Health Day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health.

The day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work, and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.

Statistics show 1 in 4 people suffer from some form of mental illness in any given year. Firefighters are three times more likely to die from suicide than in the line of duty. According to the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance, 105 firefighters took their own lives in the United States in 2014. The US Firefighters Association (USFA reports that about 10 percent of firefighters may be abusing illicit substances and that alcohol abuse among this population is more than twice the rates seen in the general public.) Post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors among first responders are also common and believed to be triggered or worsened by repeat exposure to trauma, including physical abuse and death among the people they serve, loss of people close to them, and life-threatening situations.

Help is available and know it's okay to ask for help. Visit our website at <https://sfm.illinois.gov/resources/first-responder-resiliency-mental-health-resources.html> to find a list of resources available for first responders.

100 Club of Illinois Frontline Conference

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IN THE *community*

100 CLUB OF ILLINOIS
FRONTLINE
CONVENTION



MARCH 18-19, 2024

HILTON CHICAGO OAK BROOK HILLS RESORT
3500 MIDWEST ROAD | OAK BROOK, IL



REGISTRATION FEE: \$175
OR \$100/DAY

THANK YOU TO OUR CONVENTION ENDORSEMENTS



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: 100CLUBIL.ORG/FRONTLINE-CONVENTION

100 Club of Illinois Frontline Conference

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



JASON SCHECHTERLE

RETIRED PHOENIX POLICE OFFICER WHO IN 2001 WAS INVOLVED IN A TRAUMATIC CAR ACCIDENT ON DUTY. JASON'S PATROL CAR WAS REAR ENDED, BURSTING HIS CAR INTO FLAMES AND TRAPPING HIM INSIDE WITH TEMPERATURES REACHING OVER 700 DEGREES. JASON'S JOURNEY CHRONICLES INCLUDE HIS FIGHT FOR LIFE, HIS TRIUMPH OVER TRAGEDY AND THE INSPIRATION THAT ENABLES HIM TO CONTINUE TO OVERCOME UNIMAGINABLE ADVERSITY. HIS PERSONAL NARRATIVE EXEMPLIFIES THAT THE POWER OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT CAN NEVER BE UNDERESTIMATED OR EXTINGUISHED.

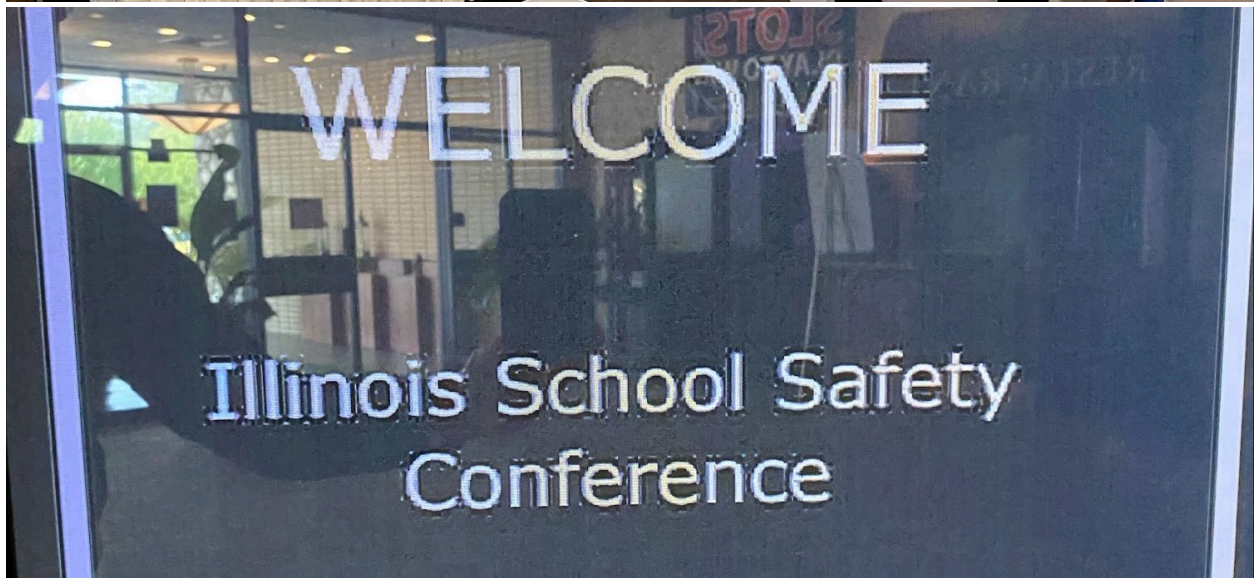
RICH CREAMER

RETIRED 24-YEAR SERGEANT OF THE NORFOLK POLICE DEPARTMENT. RICH HAS PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE CISM/PEER SUPPORT SERVICES TO THE NORFOLK POLICE DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE REGION. HE SERVES AS A CONSULTANT WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE (IACP) COLLABORATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE-TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER AND IS A SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT IN THE AREA OF OFFICER WELLNESS. CURRENTLY, RICH WORKS STRATEGICALLY WITH AGENCY LEADERSHIP, CHAPLAINS, AND SUPERVISORS FOR THE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM IMPLEMENTATION OF LIGHTHOUSE RESOURCES, EDUCATION, AND SUPPORT TO DEPARTMENTAL PERSONNEL WHILE DEVELOPING WELLNESS INITIATIVES TAILORED TO THE NEEDS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: [100CLUBIL.ORG/FRONTLINE-CONVENTION](https://100clubil.org/frontline-convention)

Illinois School Safety Conference



OSFM Section Chief, Technical Services Division Cathy Stashak along with many community partners, including the Secret Service and FBI were part of a Q and A panel on school safety during the Illinois School Safety Conference. The OSFM plays a role in school safety through inspecting public school throughout the state to ensure they are in compliance with the NFPA Life Safety Code.

To learn more, visit our website at <https://sfm.illinois.gov/iam/schoolofficials.html>.

IFSI Minute

AN UPDATE FROM THE ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

A few updates from the IFSI Team.



FALL FIRE ACADEMY COMMENCEMENT:

Congratulations to the 47 new members of the fire service. IFSI wrapped up the 2023 Fall Fire Academy session on Friday, October 27 with the closing commencement ceremony. We wish to extend a “job well done” to the candidates who successfully completed the rigorous seven-week training program. We look forward to seeing you on the grounds again as you continue developing your skills. Remember, be smart out there.



SAVE THE DATE:

Registration for the 2024 Winter Fire School opens November 10. The two-day annual event will take place January 20-21, 2024, in Champaign and will include live fire, hands-on, and classroom training courses.

IFSI CALENDAR:

The 2024 IFSI calendar will be mailed to all departments in early December. If you are interested in receiving a copy of this annual publication, email fsi-marketing@illinois.edu indicating your name and mailing address. We are proud of this piece showcasing our students, staff, programs, and affiliates and would love to share a copy with you.



IFSI Minute

NEW COURSE OFFERINGS:

IFSI is now offering a new course in the RIT Program for company and command officers. This new training opportunity parallels the Responder Intervention Team Rescue Technician class and will provide the necessary advanced skills to effectively operate as command of a RIT team. The pilot delivery will take place during the RIT Technician course November 6-11 with future offerings available in December and Spring 2024. Seats are limited in this course so interested students are strongly encouraged to register early for this training opportunity.

For complete program details, visit fsi.illinois.edu.



RIT CHIEF 50 HOURS

NEW COURSE COMING IN 2024!

FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT: FSI.ILLINOIS.EDU

RESPONDER INTERVENTION TEAM CHIEF

This course runs in conjunction with Responder Intervention Team Rescue Technician and provides firefighters with the necessary advanced skills to effectively operate as command of a responder intervention team.

RIT Chief combines classroom lecture, firefighter fatality case studies, command drills, and hands-on scenario-based training involving a firefighter MAYDAY. Skills are practiced and honed under live fire conditions that will challenge each student mentally and physically. This course goes beyond any traditional class by experiencing command operations in the fire suppression environment, preparing the officer for our worst-case scenario.

LIBRARY NEWS:

The IFSI Library was awarded a \$150,000 grant funding through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Grants for Libraries program.



**Libraries as Partners for
Emergency Preparedness and Response in Times of Crisis**

A grant project by the Illinois Fire Service Institute Library, UIUC School of Information Sciences, and Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois
August 1, 2023 - July 31, 2025

What is Libraries as Partners?
Libraries serve their communities during many crises, but there is little information on how they partner with emergency responders, like firefighters, to provide emergency services through collaboration.

This project will increase understanding of libraries' role as partners during emergencies to develop recommendations for future successful library-emergency response partnerships.

Project activities include:

- Survey of Illinois libraries to understand their partnerships with emergency responders
- Two Community Engagement Roundtable discussions between libraries and emergency responders on successful partnerships and recommendations for partnerships during emergencies

Benefits and Impact on Firefighters

- Awareness of libraries' role in emergency management and response
- Ability to create successful partnerships with libraries for emergencies
- Increased community preparation, safety, and resiliency through library partnerships

How can you get involved?
In 2024, apply to join the 2025 Community Engagement Roundtables as a panelist or participant! Join the conversation to share your thoughts and recommendations on successful library-emergency response partnerships during community crises.

For more information, visit: imlsgrant.web.illinois.edu

Acknowledgement Statement
This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant #LE-2023-0001. The views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed during the project do not necessarily represent those of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

CARLI
ILLINOIS
School of Information Sciences

INSTITUTE OF
MUSEUM- LIBRARY
SERVICES

Funding will support the two-year project Libraries as Partners for Emergency Preparedness and Response in Times of Crisis, a preliminary investigation into partnerships between libraries of all types and community

IFSI Minute

emergency response partners during emergencies. Year 1 will focus on a case study survey of the partnerships between Illinois libraries and community emergency response groups, and Year 2 will focus on community engagement roundtable discussions to bring the conversation to the national level.

This project will discover and promote the essential role that libraries play in community safety and well-being, and serve as the conversation starter for future discussions, collaborations, and research on library-community partnerships. We encourage departments or individuals who may be interested in joining this conversation to reach out to the IFSI Library Team to discuss participation opportunities.

*As we move into a season of thanks, the IFSI Team would like to **THANK YOU** for your continued support in the fulfillment of our mission.*



Illinois Fire Chiefs Symposium



Member from the OSFM attended the Illinois Fire Chiefs Symposium in East Peoria. Bill Clossen and Chris Bednarek hosted two sessions for CFO candidates to answer questions and talk about changes to the program. The OSFM also offered an online portion of this informational meeting. If you missed the live Q & A session, the recordings are available on our YouTube page at:

CFO 1 Presentation:

<https://youtu.be/Np6LZNUoiZQ>

CFO 2 Presentation:

<https://youtu.be/O5zPoIHSVEQ>

OSFM's PIO JC Fultz was also in attendance and provided the agency update to attendees.



OSFM DEI

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October, we celebrate the contributions workers with disability brings to our workforce. Let us take a moment to reflect and celebrate workers with disabilities who have strengthened our nation. Disability is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as a physical or mental impairment that limits major life activities. Disability can be acquired or present from birth and may be invisible. The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was the first federal law to address civil rights for people with disabilities, including in employment, and it set the stage for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

The "A" in DEIA

OSFM is committed to having equal opportunities for everyone and ensuring that all can fully participate in what we offer. OSFM has integrated the "A" in DEIA, which refers to accessibility. The Office of Equity in Illinois defines accessibility as the ease of use or full participation in services, facilities, workplaces, products, and communications for all individuals, including those with disabilities and limited English proficiency. Additionally, our office has launched our Language Access Plan to ensure LEP's receive the resources they need.



2023 Raices Public Policy Conference



OSFM’s Hispanic Liaison/Diversity Officer Roberto Lopez attended the 2023 Raices Public Policy Conference at Malcom X College in Chicago. The Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation was a sponsor of the event. This was a great chance for Roberto to network with attendees and talk to them about some of the efforts the OSFM continues to make in DEIA.



McCormick YMCA Career Fair



WORK FOR
ILLINOIS

State Career & Resource Fair
in Honor of
Latinx Heritage Month

October 4th, 2023 • 10:00am-2:00pm
McCormick YMCA
1834 N. Lawndale Ave.
Chicago, IL 60647

State Career Counselors will be available to help you apply!

Free lunch for the first 100 Guests

OSFM’s Roberto Lopez and Senior Policy Advisor Katherine Nunez joined numerous other state agency at the Latinx Heritage Month State Career and Resource fair at the McCormick YMCA in Chicago. Attendees were able to learn more about the OSFM and some of our specialized fields.

Sponsored by






State Senator Omar Aquino State Representative Eva-Dina Delgado State Representative Lilian Jimenez

In Partnership with



Questions

Araceli Morales
Hispanic Employment Plan Coordinator
Illinois Department of Central Management Services
(217) 299-0362
Araceli.Morales@illinois.gov

How to Apply for State Jobs

Nilda Menendez
Outreach Manager
State Senator Omar Aquino
(312) 914-3121
outreach@senatoraquino.com



For Employment Opportunities at the State of Illinois, visit: work.illinois.gov

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Homewood-Flossmoor HS Career Fair



The OSFM had a booth at the annual Homewood-Flossmoor High School Career Fair. Joyce Armstead and Jeanne Maki from Fire Prevention, Mike Moyles from Boilers and Roberto Lopez attended the career fair and provided students with information about the different division and services that the OSFM provides and offers. Students were able to ask questions about the specific training needed for the different position and learn about all the division that make up the OSFM.



Thanksgiving Cooking Safety



Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Did you know?



Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep **kids out of the kitchen** during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done **outside** the kitchen.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

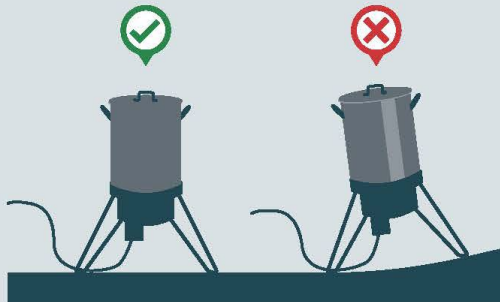


Thanksgiving Cooking Safety

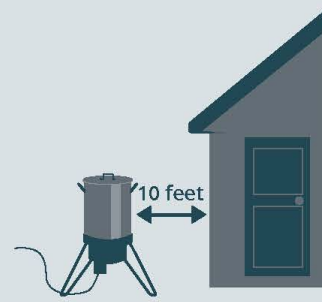


Turkey Fryer *Fire Safety*

Frying food puts you at the greatest risk of cooking fires. Before you fry a turkey, review these tips to keep you and your loved ones safe.



Turkey fryers can tip over easily, spilling hot cooking oil over a large area. Make sure your turkey fryer is on a sturdy, level surface and do not move it once it is in use.



Make sure it is at least 10 feet from your home and not under roof eaves.



An overfilled cooking pot will cause cooking oil to spill when the turkey is put in.

Test the amount of oil you need by filling your fryer with water. Place the turkey in the pot making sure the water doesn't get too close to the top. Measure the water and use that as a guide for filling the pot with oil.



A partially frozen turkey will cause cooking oil to splatter when you put it in the cooking pot.

Make sure your turkey is fully thawed without frost on it before you fry it.



Without thermostat controls, deep fryers can overheat oil to the point of starting a fire.

If your turkey fryer does not have a thermostat, use a kitchen thermometer that attaches to the side of the pot. This will help you monitor the temperature of the oil.



The sides of the cooking pot, lid and pot handles can get dangerously hot.

Always use protective oven mitts. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet from the turkey fryer.



Consider using an electric or air fryer.



Visit usfa.fema.gov for more free fire-safety resources.

CO Safety



Checklist

Carbon Monoxide Car Safety

Carbon monoxide (CO) accounts for about **20,000 ER visits each year**, making it a leading cause of poisonings in the United States. Even if CO levels are not high enough to be fatal, they can result in serious, long-term illness.

CO is an **odorless, colorless, and tasteless gas** that produced any time you burn fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces.

Many CO poisonings occur in **cars, garages, and even outside**. Use this checklist to eliminate the risk of CO poisoning to you and your loved ones.

In Your Car

CO leaks in your car can be extremely dangerous since your car is a small, enclosed space. Remember to...

- Get regular maintenance to check your car's exhaust and emission systems
- Have a mechanic check your car's exhaust system after a fender bender
- Clear any snow near your exhaust in the snowy winter
- Get any holes in your car's body repaired
- Close your trunk before driving



In Your Garage

Home garages can be dangerous since a car's exhaust fumes are released in an indoor space. When in your garage...

- Open your garage door before starting your car
- Don't leave your running car in the garage, even for a few minutes
- Install a carbon monoxide detector in your garage
- Remove your car from your garage to warm it up



Outside

Unfortunately, you're never safe from CO, even outside. When you're outside, remember to...

- Turn your car off at a tailgate
- Stay upwind of all running cars
- Keep a distance of more than 6 feet away from any running vehicle



Once you have all of these checkboxes selected, you are **CO safe!** Share this list with your family and friends to make sure they're CO safe too.

National Carbon Monoxide Awareness Association

ncoaa.us | info@ncoaa.us

Home Heating Safety



Heat Your Home Safely



32%
of home heating fires are caused by space heaters.

MORE HOME FIRES OCCUR during the cold winter months than at any other time of year.



Make Sure to Follow These Important Tips Before You Plug In

PLACE space heaters on a flat, level surface, away from high-traffic areas.

PLUG a space heater directly into an outlet and avoid using an extension cord.

NEVER LEAVE space heaters unattended.

ONLY USE space heaters with the certification label of a nationally recognized testing lab.

DON'T USE a space heater if the plug is broken or the cord is frayed, worn or damaged.

Four Home Heating Tips to Live By

1 **KEEP ANYTHING THAT CAN BURN** at least three feet away from a heating source.

3ft

2 **HAVE YOUR HEATING SYSTEM** inspected annually.

3 **KEEP VENTS CLEAR** of dust and debris.

4 **INSTALL CARBON MONOXIDE (CO)** alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning.

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Shout Outs/Kudos

Promotions:

Jeff Pride – SPSA, Arson Division Manager – October 16th

Amanda Yingling – AAI, Arson Division – October 16th

Congratulations

New Hires:

Jeffrey Gibson – Fire Prevention Inspector I, Lake County – September 5th

LaRoy Martin – Fire Prevention Inspector I, Kankakee County – September 5th

John Janozik – Fire Prevention Inspector I, Cook County – September 5th

Michael Rotolo – Fire Prevention Inspector I, Winnebago County – September 5th

Chris Handshy – Arson Investigator I, Jefferson County – September 18th

James Werner – Arson Investigator I, Cook County – September 18th

Stephen Dodovich – STSS, Cook County – October 2nd

Aaron Blane – STSS, Cook County – October 2nd

Blake Fawns – Executive I, Fire Prevention Licensing – October 16th

Welcome

Shout Outs/Kudos



OSFM representatives were present at the retirement celebration for Deane Walker who served with the Grayslake Fire Protection District for 27 years. He was also very active in the Northern Illinois Fire Inspector's Association. Congratulations on your retirement and thanks for all you did to help protect your community!

OSFM Special Agents Bobby Joe Brown and Bob Dunn took part in a HOOAH Deer Hunt for Heroes procession that passed by the OSFM Headquarters. This event honors veterans for their service to our great country.



OSFM's Agency Diversity Officer/Hispanic Liaison Roberto Lopez joined fire service and EMS members from across the country in Denver last week for LGBTQIA+ awareness training. A DEIA training curriculum is currently being developed in Illinois.

Kids' Corner

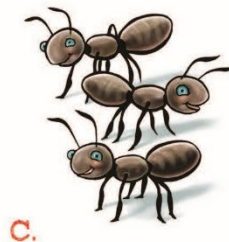
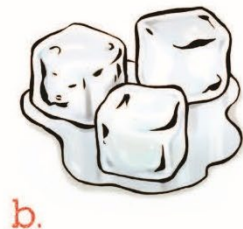
Name _____

Hot, Can Get Hot or Not Hot?

There are things inside and outside the home that are hot or can get hot. It is important to stay away from hot things. Don't touch them. If you are unsure if something is hot, stay away and check with a grown-up.

Directions: Look at the pictures below. Which pictures show something HOT? Which pictures show something that CAN GET HOT? Which pictures show something that is NOT HOT?

Write **HOT** or **CAN GET HOT** or **NOT HOT** under the correct pictures.



Key: a hot, b not hot, c not hot, d can get hot, e can get hot, f hot, g not hot, h can get hot, i not hot, j can get hot, k hot, l not hot



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