



Texas Fire Marshals' Association

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www.txfma.org

Officers: **PRESIDENT 2016-2018**
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Members: 433

Meeting Times: Fall, Texas Fire Marshal Conference
October, Board Meeting, General Meeting

Spring, International Association of Arson Investigators Conference
March, Board Meeting, General Meeting

Newsletter: <https://www.facebook.com/TexasFMA/> - <https://twitter.com/txfma> and
www.textfma.org

Three Issues:

- Standardization of the Qualifications for a Fire Marshal
 - After two years of detailed discussions with Sam Houston State University – Fire Marshal Professional Qualifications Program is underway as a part of the FEMT-FM Program: Fire Executive Management Training Program for Fire Marshals.
 - [Click here to access more information](#)
 - There is still concern that Fire Marshals do not have a certification or criteria to meet NFPA 1037, and now NFPA 1730 CRR is in discussion with members. They would like to know more of what is being discussed at a national level.

- Legislation in Texas
 - Texas has legislative session every two years; currently there are several bills of concern and interest to our members. Budget cuts have been instituted at some of the State, County, Municipal, and private industry levels due to changes within the Texas budget and passing of various property tax legislation.
 - Concern over service levels affected, hiring freezes, and the continued population growth vs. ability to provide service is of discussion amongst our members.

- Lineage - Prepare for 40-year anniversary at October 2017 Conference.
 - The organization was given charter in 1977, a timeline is being developed along with a digital history leaders, major initiatives, and significant events,



- A committee has been established to ensure previous presidents, founders of the association, and members of IFMA are invited to celebrate!

General Chapter Report:

The Texas Fire Marshals' Association is the leading voice of City, County, and Education Fire Marshals for the State of Texas. This is evident in the membership growth over the past few years. We are proud to report that from 2012-2016 there has been a 24% increase in membership! This is a testament to, the fire service professional and interest in ensuring the fellowship and training that the TXFMA offers.

The Texas Fire Marshals' Conference for 2016 had an exceptional turnout. There were 332 attendees, 37 vendors, and 12 major speakers. The raffle and charity event earned enough funds to donate \$3500.00 Texas Line of Duty Death (LODD), and \$ 1500.00 to Texas Peace Officers Memorial Fund.

The Chapter hired a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) to manage the financial data and report to the treasurer in the summer of 2016. This is another step to ensure stability and transparency to our members. We have a CPA, Liability Insurance through VFIS, Law Firm on Retainer, and are continuing working on SOP's for the organization and committees.

Communications

Our membership is large and with expected growth communication between meetings is becoming more difficult through the form of a newsletter. We are constantly trying to engage with not only members, vendors, but also fire protection members across the nation, networking is the key to success!

- Facebook Numbers – 1,491 likes
- Twitter – 383 followers
- Training events
- Job Opportunities
- Links to NFPA, ICC, NFA, etc.

Communication with our membership, vendor partners, technical liaisons, and government entities is crucial to our success in all areas of Fire Marshal operations. The ability to communicate through social media has enhanced our networking.

Resolutions as of this report for the current Texas Legislation is:

- SB 760 – Menendez, Jose: Relating to county authority to regulate fireworks. Allows counties to set up safe areas for fireworks. (Support)



- HB 1654 – Oliverson, Tom: Relating to the offense of failure to comply with an order from a fire marshal and the authority of certain county employees to issue citations violations. (Support)
- HB 1619 – Shine, H.D.: outdoor burning of waste and combustible material. (Support)
- HB 1183 – Roberts, Kevin: Prohibition on Firework use during certain hours. (Support)
- SB 2/HB 15 – Ad valorem tax revenue caps; it would be inequitable for the Texas Legislature to impose additional revenue caps on local governments without funding, repealing and prohibiting state unfunded mandates (Oppose)

TFMA looks forward to continued involvement at the National Level to ensure it is providing the best benefit to their association members.