



Delaware State Fire Chief's Association

Jeff Brown, President

P.O. Box 1849, Dover, DE 19903

Jefferybrown@delaware.gov

269th Delaware State Fire Chief's Association Meeting

June 26th, 2026, State Chief's Expo

Station 50, Harrington Fire Company

The quarterly meeting was called to order by President Jeff Brown at 1830 hours.

An invocation was given by Chaplin Richard Walton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Past President Andy Hall.

Welcome to the host company given by Fire Chief Robert Brode, Station 50 Harrington.

Motion made by Andy Hall, second by Monte Martinez to recess for dinner. Motion carried, recessed at 1837 hours.

President Brown called the meeting back to order at 1900 hours.

There was no guest speaker or presentation due to the expo.

Roll Call of Officers:

President Jeff Brown	Present
1 st Vice President Jack Wilson	Present
2 nd Vice President Terry Clark	Present
Secretary Steven Maichle	Absent
Asst. Secretary Joe Morris Jr	Present
Treasurer Mark O'Bier	Present
Asst Treasurer Jon Townley	Present
Past President Mike Edwards	Present
Directors NCC:	
Gordy Edwards	Present
Keith Stockman	Present

Directors KC:

Duane Fox	Present
Robbie Brode	Present
Quint Boots	Present

Directors SC:

Ken Swartz	Present
Richard Ward	Absent
Ted Walius	Present

Advisors:

A.J. Shaw	Present
Chad Ingram	Present

Recognition of all Delaware State Fire Chief's Past Presidents	16
Recognition of all Current Fire Chief's	11
Recognition of all Past Fire Chief's	35

Adoption of the March 26, 2026, meeting minutes. Motion made by John Watson, second by Andy Hall to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried, approved.

Report of Officers:

Presidents Report – All training that was pending funding has been approved by the Fire Commission.

1st Vice Presidents Report – Reported on DVFA Conference training and schedule. Also gave list of training Dates, seminars and guest speakers. See website posting.

2nd Vice Presidents Report – Absent from meeting.

Secretary Report – Received several letters of nomination to be read under proper order of business, received a resignation letter to be read under proper order of business.

Treasurer Report – written form, see attached. Tonight, brought in 2100.00 from vendors and 235.00 in 50/50. CD totals on the M&T DSFCA and the EMS are about \$300.00 off to the positive. Could not find current statement totals. Also, had dues money brought in. Motion made by Andy Hall, second by Monte Martinez to accept. Motion carried.

Directors Report - NCC -no report. KC - no report. SC – no report. Dues are due if you haven't already submitted payment.

Report of Agencies and Associations:

Delaware State Fire Commission – Chairman Ron Marvel

- BLS protocols and updates have been signed. Paramedic protocols are done. Will be coming out and going into effect during the conference.

Delaware State Fire Marshal's Office – Fire Marshal John Rudd

- Burn ban in effect statewide. We have been in near drought conditions. Reminder all outdoor burning is banned, and a burn ban is in effect by DNREC till October 1st. We have had enough precipitation not to effect upcoming fireworks displays. Other than professional displays, ground base and non-exploding fireworks are only permitted for public use. Any issues call the local police first; they will be faster to respond. Extra Fire Marshal's will be on duty on 4th of July week to cover the numerous fireworks displays.

Delaware State fire School – Acting Director Chad Ingram

- The Fire School has been working with DEMA and the State IT Communications Division on the 800mhz updates. Spring FF1/FF2 class just graduated 61 students. 28 students enrolled in the accelerated program that will finish in two weeks graduating on July 16th. Finished up AFT requests for PPE, simulators and various other equipment and material needs. Testing for Pro-Board Certifications are now computer based, immediate and being run successfully.

Delaware Emergency Management Agency – Director A. J. Shaw

- 2 things, most of the special ops equipment has been distributed throughout the state. Had a conference call this am with all agencies on the upcoming 250th anniversary celebrations and festivities.

Delaware State Division of Communications –

- None reporting.

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control – Hazmat Chief Tucker Dempsey

- Thanked everyone for their support as the Past Director of the State Fire School. Introduced himself as the Hazmat Chief of DNREC. Need anything, don't hesitate to call.

Delaware State Forestry –

- None reporting.

International Association of Fire Chief's – Eastern Div. -Andy Hall

- 2026 Conference is over. 2027 Conference dates are May 5,6,7, 2027. Atlantic Sands, Rehoboth.

New Castle County Fire Chief's Association – President Gordy Edwards

- Next meeting is next week, Station 16, Elsmere.

Kent County Fire Chief's Association – President Duane Fox

- Next meeting is August 12th, Station 41, Farmington. Carlile Chaplin 42, is having a seminar on leadership training. Will be held at all 3 Fire School locations. NC and Kent will be in July. Sussex will be on August 5th from 6-10. Cost is \$75.00 per person. NERIS has added a modification for special events, World Cup related. FEMA grant money is available for Kent and Sussex County for the February 22, 23 snowstorms. Any operational expenses need to be onto DEMA by March 28th. Duane is working with NERIS to get special events, for example NASCAR weekend, storms, etc. in the special modifier NERIS system.

Sussex County Fire Chief's Association – Kent Swarts

- Next meeting July 16th, Blades Fire Company, Station 71.

Delmarva Fireman's Association – Elmer Steele

- Next meeting August 9th, Church Creek, MD.

Delaware Firefighter's Association – 1st Vice President Jim Arrington

- Conference is coming up on September 14, 15, 16 and 17th. Get your registration before the deadline.

New Castle County Firefighter's Association – Secretary Debbie Watson

- Next meeting is July 9th, Station 24, Odessa. Nominations meeting.

Kent County Firefighter's Association – 1st Vice President Dave Voss

- Next meeting July 15th, 1900, hours, Station 47 Farmington.

Sussex County Firefighter's Association –

- None reporting.

Delaware State Fire Police Association –

- None reporting.

New Castle County Fire Police Association –

- None reporting.

Kent county Fire Police Association –

- None reporting.

Sussex County Fire Police Association –

- None reporting.

Committee Reports:

- Heroic Firefighter - Jim Watson
All nomination letters must be submitted by August 1st.
- Conference Fire/Ems Training Committee – Jack Wilson
Thank you to everyone that assisted and compiled the training for the upcoming conference in Rehoboth.
Jim Watson stated all conference training schedules were sent out to all the departments about 2 weeks ago. Sign up on website.

Reading of Communications:

Resignation letter read from Secretary Steven Maichle. See attached.

Letters of Nomination read and attached for the following offices for 2026-2027.

John C Wilson, President

Mark Obier, Treasurer

Robert Brode, 2nd Vice President

Joseph C Morris Jr, Secretary

Robert Helmler, Kent County Director

Unfinished Business:

- Andy Hall, we have not had a Past Presidents Dinner for the past few years. It needs to be scheduled. Mike Edwards is working on it and has a date.

New Business:

- Motion made by Andy Hall, second by Jim Watson to accept Steven Maichle's letter of resignation as secretary. Motion carried, approved.
- Chief Brode and the Harrington Fire Company presented banners to the association for future expos in memory of Chief Rodney Marvel. Rodney worked for several years as chairman of the committee and his efforts has mad the expo the success it is today.
- Motion made by Jon Townley, second by Andy Hall for the DSFCA to be a lead sponsor of the IAFC Eastern Division conference in 2027. Motion carried, approved.
- Meetings with the Commission, Fire School, DVFA, DSFCA and the State legislature have been on the federal background check bill. Cleaning this up as far as verbiage, costs, streamlining, etc. DSFCA is not involved in 709.
- Jon Townley made a motion that the association purchase lighter color shirts for the table officers, second by Andy Hall. Motion carried, approved.
- Motion made by Andy Hall, seconded by Jim Watson to do the gun raffle again for the 2027 expo. Motion carried, approved.

Election of Officers:

All nominations are unopposed.

President Jack Wilson, 1 vote cast by Secretary Morris
1st Vice President Terry Clark, 1 vote cast by Secretary Morris
2nd Vice President Robbie Brode, 1 vote cast by Secretary Morris
Secretary Joe Morris Jr, 1 vote cast by 1st VP Jack Wilson
Asst. Secretary open. Vacated by Joe Morris Jr with Steve Miachle resignation. Joe Morris Jr
Nominated Elmer Steele from the floor with a second by Jim Watson. President Brown declared
Nominations for that office are closed. 1 vote cast by Secretary Morris.
Treasurer Mark O'bier, 1 vote cast by Secretary Morris
Asst Treasurer Jon Townley, 1 vote cast by Secretary Morris
Kent County Director Robert Hemler, 1 vote cast by Secretary Morris
President Brown declared elections finalized and closed.

Good of the Association:

Jim Watson, Delaware Valley Association is having a gun raffle, see flyers.
Cumberland Valley Association is having its convention July 29th to August 1st. See website.
Treasurer Mark O'bier gave a report on the total income from the gun raffles since 2021. \$24,552.00.
Proposition for membership of Tom Greek, Harrington Fire Co. Motion made by Andy Hall, second by
Monty Martinez to accept. Motion carried.
Proposition for membership of Scott O'Riley and Robert Sharp, Seaford Fire Co. Motion made by
Andy Hall, second by Jack Wilson to accept. Motion carried.
Motion made by Andy Hall, second by Monty Martinez to give Harrington Fire Company \$500 as
reimbursement for the meal. Motion carried, approved.
50/50 was drawn with \$235.00 to the winner, Deb Watson.
Several door prizes were raffled off and awarded.
Gun raffle was drawn with all 4 prizes being claimed by the winners, once notified.

Final Adjournment

Motion made by Andy Hall, second by Monty Martinez to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting
Adjourned at 2022 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph C Morris Jr.
Acting Secretary DSFCA

DELAWARE STATE FIRE CHIEFS QUARTERLY REPORT, JUNE 25, 2026

CHECKING ACCOUNT

STARTING BALANCE (3/26/2026) 5,627.75

INCOME:

50-50 (MARCH MTG)	110.00
DUES	1,430.00
DSFPC - FIRE PREVENTION REIMBURSEMENT	386.96
PNC - CD CLOSE OUT	15,593.61

TOTAL (INCOME): 17,520.57

EXPENSES:

MILTON VFC LADIES AUX (MARCH MTG MEAL)	500.00
DSFS - JR FIRE ACADEMY	500.00
PNC - ONLINE C.C. PAYMENT, 2ND VP LODGING, E DIV ICHIEFS	543.80
CHIEF 360, ANNUAL WEB PAGE FEE	480.00
PNC - DEPOSIT SLIPS	142.96
OPEN NEW CD	15,593.61

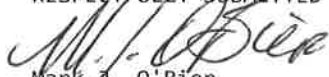
TOTAL (EXPENSES): 17,760.37

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE (6/25/2026) 5,387.95

DSFC: PNC MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT (1643)	4,432.27
EMS: PNC MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT (6095)	7,844.24
PNC: DSFC CD (8223) 8 MONTH, 3.45%	15,641.03
PNC: DSFC/EMS CD (5367) 8 MONTH 3.25%	15,426.06
M&T: DSFC CD (7500) 12 MONTH	10,101.77
M&T: DSFC/EMS CD (7196) 6 MONTH	10,118.21
M&T: DSFC CHECKING	350.84

TOTAL (ASSOCIATION ASSETS): 69,302.37

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED


Mark J. O'Bier
Treasurer
DSFC

Resignation letter Stephen Maichle

From red2832@aol.com <red2832@aol.com>

Date Tue 6/23/2026 11:31 PM

To jeffrey brown <jeffrey.brown@delaware.gov>

Cc Joe Morris <joe.morris@delmar74fire.com>

Dear Mr. President,

It is with deep regret that I announce immediately that I resign as Secretary of the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Association.

This has been the toughest year in my 50 year Fire Career. I have worked with some of the greatest leaders in the Delaware Fire Service. I have held this position for the past 11 years and it has been an honor to serve.

Please accept my resignation letter I hope to see you all soon.

Sincerely,

Stephen J Maichle



Seaford Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

P.O. Box 87
Seaford, DE 19973

(302) 629-3112
(302) 629-9355
Fax (302) 629-9483

To: DSFCA

From: Seaford Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Nomination for office

At a meeting of the SVFD held on this date a motion was made, seconded and approved by the membership to support **John C. Wilson III (Jack)** for the office of President of the DSFCA.

Wayne Rigby, Secretary SVFD



Seaford Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

P.O. Box 87
Seaford, DE 19973

(302) 629-3112
(302) 629-9355
Fax (302) 629-9483

To: DSFCA

From: Seaford Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.

Date: June 10, 2026

Re: Nomination for office

At a meeting of the SVFD held on this date a motion was made, seconded and approved by the membership to support **Mark O'Bier** for the office of Treasurer of the DSFCA.

Wayne Rigby, Secretary SVFD



KENT COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 181 • Magnolia, Delaware 19962

June 1, 2026

Delaware State Fire Chiefs Association

Attn: Executive Board

Subject: Nomination of Robert Brode for Kent County Director

Dear Members of the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Association:

Please be advised that at the regular meeting of the Kent County Fire Chiefs Association held on April 8, 2026, a motion was duly made and seconded to endorse the nomination of Robert Brode for the position of Kent County 2nd Vice President of the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Association.

The nomination was properly presented to the membership and received the support of the members in attendance. In accordance with the Association's Constitution, Bylaws, and election procedures, the Kent County Fire Chiefs Association respectfully submits the nomination of Robert Brode for consideration.

We appreciate your consideration of this nomination and thank you for your continued service and leadership to the fire service throughout the State of Delaware.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Morris

Secretary

Kent County Fire Chiefs Association

P.O. Box 181

Magnolia, DE 19962

cc: Robert Brode

Kent County Fire Chiefs Association Executive Board

2nd V.P.
DS FCA

Harrington Fire Company, Inc

EMERGENCY 911

20 CLARK STREET
HARRINGTON, DE 19952-0236
BUSINESS: (302) 398-8931
FAX: (302) 398-4350

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to submit this letter on behalf of the Harrington Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. to express our full endorsement of Robbie Brode for the position of 2nd Vice-President in the upcoming election cycle. At the regular company meeting held in June 2026, the membership unanimously voted to support Chief Brode's candidacy and requested that I provide this formal letter of endorsement on the company's behalf.

Chief Brode has faithfully served the Harrington Volunteer Fire Company in numerous leadership and operational capacities for many years, including distinguished service as both Fire Chief and President.

Throughout his decades of involvement, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to the fire service, sound judgment, professionalism, and a sincere dedication to advancing the mission of volunteer fire companies throughout Delaware.

Based on his experience, leadership, and long-standing commitment to the fire service, we are confident that Chief Brode will represent the Harrington Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. with integrity and will serve the Delaware State Fire Chiefs' Association with distinction. We respectfully offer our strong support for his election to the office of 2nd Vice-President.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth A. Brode

Secretary

Harrington Volunteer Fire Co. Inc.

HELP US HELP YOU ... PREVENT FIRES

Delmar Fire Department, Inc.

Delaware Delmar Maryland

P.O Box 143

Delmar, Delaware 19940

Phone 302-846-2530

Fax 302-846-2505

Jacob Boothe

P.O.Box 143

Delmar De 19940

(302)8462530

Jacob.boothe@delmar74fire.com

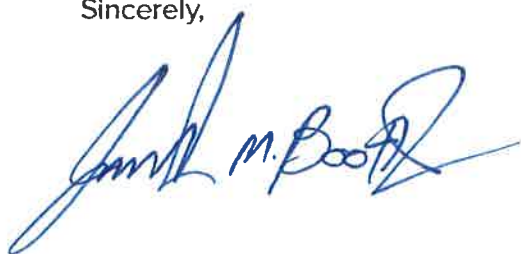
16 June 2026

Delaware State Fire Chiefs Association

Dear President and members,

On behalf of the members of the Delmar Fire Department, Inc., I, Jacob Boothe, President of the Delmar Fire Department, would like to nominate Joseph C. Morris Jr. to the position of secretary of the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Association.

Sincerely,



Jacob Boothe



June 20, 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Eastern Division of the International Fire Chiefs Association (EDIAFC) is having their 100th Anniversary Conference in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware at the Atlantic Sands Hotel and Conference Center. We are soliciting vendors to attend our Conference and display their services for our attendees. We have members from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York that attend our Conference as well as from other surrounding states. The Conference will be held May 5th through the 7th. We are planning some special events to celebrate this milestone, and we hope you will decide to join us. We will certainly encourage our attendees to patronize your business or utilize your services. A vendor table or space is \$300. There is also a Convention book being prepared for the attendees that you are welcome to consider taking out an ad to further support our efforts. If you need the specifics on ad costs, I can send them to you. If you have any questions, please contact me at 302-528-2273 or by email at Kingshimr@aol.com.

Sincerely,

Jim Watson

Past President

Vendor Chairperson for EDIAFC Conference 2027

Serving Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia since 1927