



## 2018 Georgia Fire Service Conference



### August 14 – 18, 2018 Dalton Convention Center Conference Agenda

The Georgia Fire Service conference, hosted by the Georgia State Firefighters Association and the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs, looks forward to returning to Dalton this fall for the 2018 Georgia Fire Service Conference. A full schedule of pre-conference classes, engaging keynote speakers, an exhibit hall to check out new gear and equipment and the traditional Firefighters Competition are just a few of this year's highlights.

#### **REGISTRATION**

Registration for the Georgia Fire Service Conference is \$250 for individuals who are members of the Georgia State Firefighters Association or the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs and \$300 for those who are not members of one of the associations. A separate registration fee has been set up for those who only want to take pre-conference classes (\$35 - \$50) as well as retirees (\$100) and spouses (\$125).

To register as a participant, [click here](#).

Businesses and organizations also are encouraged to participate in the Georgia Fire Service Conference. The exhibit hall is open on Thursday, August 16 from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Friday, August 17 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. There also are sponsorship opportunities available to help show your support for Georgia's fire service.

To register to participate in the exhibit hall or as a sponsor, [click here](#).

#### **HOTELS**

Room blocks have been secured at several hotels in Dalton near the Dalton Convention Center. Parking is free at the hotels and the Dalton Convention Center. The room rates below do not include taxes or other fees. Reference the Georgia Fire Service Conference to get these room rates. You are encouraged to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible because the blocks will fill up quickly.

##### **Hilton Garden Inn (Available until 7/25)**

[Click Here for Website](#)

879 College Drive  
Dalton, GA 30720

**Phone:** 706.529.6001

**Room Rate:** \$149

**Holiday Inn Express & Suites (Available until 8/1)**

[Click Here for Website](#)

865 Holiday Inn Drive  
Dalton, GA 30720

**Phone:** 706.217.6200

**Room Rate:** \$119

**La Quinta Inns & Suites (Available until 8/3)**

[Click Here for Website](#)

715 College Drive  
Dalton, GA 30720

**Phone:** 706.272.9099 or call 800.752.3757 and use booking code: GRAZVY

**Room Rate:** \$94

**Marriott Courtyard (Available until 7/16)**

[Click Here for Website](#)

785 College Drive  
Dalton, GA 30720

**Phone:** 706.275.7215

**Room Rate:** \$109

## AGENDA (as of May 15, 2018)

### PRE-CONFERENCE CLASSES

*There is a separate registration fee to attend pre-conference classes. Lunch will be provided.*

*All classes are \$35, except for the Chaplaincy class, which is \$50 for this two-day program.*

*All events will take place off-site in the Dalton area.*

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2018

| Time                  | Class   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | <p><b>Pre-Conference Class: Essentials of Chaplaincy – Part 1</b></p> <p>This is part one of a two-day class designed to help train new chaplains.</p> <p><i>Instructors: Ronnie Cowart, Cartersville Fire Department; Ashley Tyree, Hazlehurst – Jeff Davis County Fire &amp; Rescue</i></p> |

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2018

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | <p><b>Pre-Conference Class: Essentials of Chaplaincy – Part 2</b></p> <p>This is part two of a two-day class designed to help train new chaplains.</p> <p><i>Instructors: Ronnie Cowart, Cartersville Fire Department; Ashley Tyree, Hazlehurst – Jeff Davis County Fire &amp; Rescue</i></p>   |
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | <p><b>Pre-Conference Class: Down &amp; Dirty Firefighter Survival</b></p> <p>This hands-on training class covers advanced techniques used to escape hostile fire environments as well as techniques used in the rescue of injured firefighters from windows and fire collapse situations. Other topics to be covered include ladder bailouts, rope bailouts, breaching a wall, removing an unconscious firefighter through a window and moving both a conscious and unconscious firefighter from a basement involved in a floor collapse.</p> <p><i>Instructor: Robbie Townsend, Dalton Fire Department</i></p>   |
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | <p><b>Pre-Conference Class: First Due Firemanship</b></p> <p>Hone your skills for the initial stage of an incident. Participants will rotate through four learning stations and live fire scenarios that encompass engine company search operations, search and rescue, forcible entry and firefighter rescue.</p> <p><i>Instructor: Chief Jason Hurley, Bremen Fire Department</i></p>   |
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | <p><b>Pre-Conference: Basic Community Risk Reduction Educator</b></p> <p>This class is a direct result of the work of the Georgia Fire Fatality Task Force. Not everyone is an educator, so this class provides the basic building blocks for incorporating risk reduction in many aspects of the fire service. Topics covered include the impact of fire, presenting to various age groups, preparing an effective smoke alarm blitz, planning education initiatives, evaluation of programs and how to use unified statewide messaging resources.</p> <p><i>Instructors: Laura Coleman, Lumpkin County Emergency Services; Karla Richter, Office of Insurance and Fire Safety Commissioner; and Jacade Long, Rockdale County Fire Department.</i></p> |

| WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2018 |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.    | <b>GMAG Meeting</b>   |
| 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.      | <b>Unification Partners Meeting</b>   |
| THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2018  |   |
| 7:00 a.m.                  | <b>Conference Registration Opens</b><br><i>Coffee Only, Breakfast on Your Own</i>   |
| 8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.     | <b>Official Opening of Conference &amp; Keynote Address</b><br><b>Leadership: Trust, Love &amp; Thermodynamics</b><br>Protecting yourself so that you can be prepared to help others is critical to your success as a firefighter. This requires not only committing to skill-based training, but also physical fitness and mental health. The Georgia Smoke Diver program is an advanced firefighter training experience that seeks to prevent injury and death by training firefighters to be adaptable and to develop critical decision-making skills in high stress environments. Smoke Daddy David Rhodes will inspire you to tackle that next level of training at every level of your career in his opening keynote address.   |
| 10:15 a.m.                 | <b>Break</b>  |
| 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.    | <b>DUAL TRACKS</b><br><br><b>How to Procure the Products and Services Your Department Needs Using Cooperative Purchasing</b><br>This session will highlight how cooperative purchasing can get departments the products and services they want and need, in less time, at a competitive or better price than they would receive if they completed a bid. Additionally, cooperative purchasing can help bring some purchasing control back to the fire professionals.<br><i>Instructors: Bill DeMars, NPPGov/FireRescue GPO, Vice President President of Business Development and Cindy Morgan, Vice President of Equipment and Rescue Sales, Ten-8 Fire Equipment</i><br><br><b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom: Using Educational Technology to Enhance Learning</b><br>Having trouble engaging today's learners in training? In this session, you will be introduced to a variety of innovative ways to use educational technology to engage students in the learning experience. Using a variety of applications and tools, you will learn how to design and use new technologies in your training curriculum.<br><i>Instructor: Beverly Walker, Director of Fire and Emergency Services Administration Degree Program, East Georgia State College</i> |
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.     | <b>Networking Lunch</b><br><i>Sponsored by Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation</i>   |
| 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.      | <b>What the Fire Service Needs to Know: Updates from State Officials</b>  |
| 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.      | <b>GSFA Business Session</b>  |
| 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.      | <b>GAFC Business Session</b>  |
| 4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.      | <b>Exhibit Hall Opens / Opening Reception</b><br>Take this opportunity to interact with vendors and other organizations that work with Georgia's fire service. Get a first-hand look at new equipment and learn how these companies are providing innovative solutions that could help your community.  |

| FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2018   |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 7:00 a.m.                 | <b>Continental Breakfast</b>  |
| 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.     | <b>Memorial Service</b>   |
| 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.     | <b>Coffee Break</b>   |
| 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.     | <b>Exhibit Hall Open</b><br>Spend additional time this morning meeting the companies and organizations that support Georgia's fire service. Training credit will be given for visiting with vendors. Lunch will be provided in the exhibit hall.  |
| 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.   | <b>Lunch</b><br><i>Served in the Exhibit Hall</i>   |
| 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.     | <b>GSFA Business Session - Voting for 2018-2020 GSFA Officers</b>   |
| 2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.     | <b>Ice Cream Social</b><br><i>Sponsored by Municipal Equipment Co.</i>  |
| 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.     | <b>GAFC Business Session</b>  |
| 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.     | <b>General Session: If I Only Knew</b><br>Did you know there are more firefighter suicides than line of duty deaths in the fire service every year? When peers hear about a firefighter suicide, it leaves many thinking, "If I only knew..." This presentation shines light on the dark subject of firefighter suicide, including signs, risk factors and prevention strategies. Learn valuable lessons from a firefighter that has struggled with depression and post-traumatic stress disorder and is using some of his life lessons to teach others.<br><i>Instructor: William E. Claypoole, West Point Fire Department</i>   |
| 5:00 p.m.                 | <b>Firefighters Competition &amp; Meal</b><br>Get ready to have some fun as fire departments compete through a series of challenges to claim top title! Join us in downtown Dalton to enjoy some good-spirited fun!   |
| SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2018 |   |
| 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.     | <b>Continental Breakfast</b>  |
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.     | <b>Morning Devotion Service</b>   |
| 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.     | <b>DUAL TRACKS</b><br><br><b>The Five P's of Personal Development</b><br>So you've made fire officer, a milestone accomplishment! All company and chief officers start their careers with good intentions, but as time goes on many forget what got them to where they are. Before long character flaws, personal motives, and bad intentions begin to chip away at the core values that helped develop their career foundation. The Chief's Fire P's explores the flaws and motives that erode foundational core values of leadership and provides principles to help rebuild the officer's foundation to ensure a lifelong successful career.<br><i>Instructor: Chief Keith Sanders, Sandy Springs Fire Rescue</i><br><br><b>How to Lead When You're Not In Charge</b><br>How to lead when you're not in charge can be a difficult question if you only see leadership opportunities when you are actually in charge. Unfortunately, you'll probably miss your chance to lead a team, handle an important project or actually be in charge if you wait around for an official title. Learn how to leverage your influence and lead well in whatever role you are in.<br><i>Instructor: Brian Marcos, Smyrna Fire Department</i> |

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.</b></p>  | <p><b>Georgia’s Legislative Process: How a Bill Becomes a Law and the Importance of Fire Service Engagement</b><br/> Each year, more and more legislation is introduced that directly impacts Georgia’s fire service. The Georgia State Firefighters Association and the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs work hard to keep you informed as bills are introduced and progress. However, it is important for you to understand the legislative process, recognize when you need make your voice heard and understand the best way to do so. Get an insider’s look at the legislative process and learn some practical tips on how you can be most effective.<br/> <i>Instructor: Chief Scott Carter, Cartersville Fire Department</i></p> |
| <p><b>11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</b></p> | <p><b>Georgia’s Involvement in the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation</b><br/> The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation works to honor and remember America’s fallen firefighters, to provide resources to assist their families in rebuilding their lives and to work within the fire service community to reduce firefighter deaths and injuries. Learn more about how Georgia interacts with this foundation to assist those impacted in our state by the loss of a firefighter.<br/> <i>Instructor: David Bullard, Columbia County Fire Department; Director Dennis Thayer, Catoosa County 911 and Emergency Management Agency; and Lt. Scott McCord, Rockdale County Fire Department.</i></p>                                 |
| <p><b>12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.</b></p>  | <p><b>Lunch &amp; Keynote Address</b><br/> <b>Self Defense &amp; Survival</b><br/> Firefighters and other first responders are quick to act when the alarm sounds. But one of the most important strategies for firefighters to learn is how to keep themselves and their peers safe. This session will explore what firefighters and EMTs can do to avoid confrontations and will introduce the “color codes of awareness” that have served the law enforcement community so well for decades. It will also discuss the subject of appropriate use of force, tactics that can reduce the chance of assault and self-defense techniques.<br/> <i>Instructor: Gary Stanley, Dalton Fire Department</i></p>                                  |
| <p><b>1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.</b></p>   | <p><b>NFPA 3000 Standards for Active Shooter Training</b><br/> Over the last two decades, more and more fire departments have gotten drawn in to active shooter events. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is developing a new standard – NFPA 3000, Standard for Preparedness and Response to Active Shooter and/or Hostile Events. Learn more about this new standard and gain an increased understanding of the need for training in this area through a series of scenarios faced by other firefighters.<br/> <i>Instructors: Robby Dawson, NFPA Southern District and Sgt. Justin Guck, Gwinnett County Police Department</i></p>  |
| <p><b>3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.</b></p>   | <p><b>Afternoon Break</b></p>  |
| <p><b>3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.</b></p>   | <p><b>GSFA/GAFC Joint Closing Session</b></p>  |
| <p><b>5:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.</b></p>   | <p><b>Closing Reception and Awards Ceremony</b><br/> Join the leadership of the Georgia State Firefighters Association, the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs and the Georgia Arson Control Board to recognize and honor the individuals selected to receive annual statewide fire service awards to present fire chief certifications.</p>   |
| <p><b>7:15 p.m.</b></p>               | <p><b>Dinner on Your Own</b></p>   |