



2024 Tennessee Public Fire Educators Conference

Sunday, July 14

1300-1700 - Exhibitor and Equipment Display Opens - TN Fire Chief's Vendor Show

Monday, July 15

0900-0930 - Welcome

0930-1030 - **State Fire Marshal's Office** - Adam Wodzinski

1030 - **Fire Chief Conference Opening Ceremonies** - Departmental Recognition/Public Educator of the Year Award/Keynote Speaker

1200-1300 - Lunch

1300-1400 - **NFPA Updates** - Kelly Ransdell, NFPA Public Education Division Director

1415-1515 - **Craig 1300 Presentation** - NFPA representative

Tuesday, July 16

0900-1100 - "**Virginia Beach Safety Squad**" - Jessica Xenakis, Virginia Beach, 2023 NFPA Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year

1100-1230 - Lunch

1300-1400 - **CPST - Rear-facing Supporting Data, High limit seats** (Re-certification CEU) - Julie Brewer, TN CPS State Coordinator

1415-1515 - **Community Engagement - Know your Audience to Benefit your Program and Grant Opportunities** - Kimberly Strong, TPFEA President, Memphis Fire Department

Closing Statements, Certificate presentations, Evaluations & Board Meeting (elections)

(Agenda/schedule subject to change)

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKERS & TOPICS

Adam Wodzinski, State Fire Marshal's Office. Adam is a retired FDNY Fire Captain who has made significant contributions to fire service training and recruitment. During his tenure with FDNY, played a key role in the development of the FDNY Fire Cadet Academy, recruitment program and Mentor program. He also made valuable contributions to the FDNY Bureau of Training and Fire Safety Education while in an operations role. Currently he serves as a Community Risk Reduction Coordinator at the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office, where he continues to dedicate his expertise to enhancing fire safety and prevention efforts. He is an integral piece of a department tasked with assisting the fire service in Tennessee. He is currently the point person on the Community Risk Reduction Assessment initiative, and the Burn Demonstration trailer. He previously coordinated the Get Alarmed TN Program. He is the State of Tennessee's NFPA representative, and a member of the TPFEA.

Kelly Ransdell, New Director of NFPA Public Education Division. Kelly is a self motivated professional who works to save lives through public education, outreach and advocacy. Kelly is a strong supporter of Safety Education and Community Risk Reduction programs and is always a joy to have. Kelly will oversee all public education messaging, program development and implementation and serve as the primary public education expert for NFPA. Kelly always brings the latest NFPA information that is available to all educators and discusses how best to use the available information in your life safety programs.

Jessica Xenakis, Virginia Beach Fire Department, Fire and Life Safety Education Coordinator. Jessica is a professional educator with over 14 years of instructional experience. She created VBFD's "Safety Squad" program, an interactive fire and injury prevention curriculum. Jessica was recently awarded the Virginia Governor's Award of Excellence in Community Risk Reduction and was also named the 2023 NFPA Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year. The Safety Squad is an interactive fire and injury prevention elementary school program that reaches 30,000 students in grades K-5. Learn how VBFD's Life Safety Education team makes the use of movement to teach engaging and measurable effective safety lessons.

Julie Brewer, TN Occupant Protection Center at TN Tech University, provides resources and information to injury prevention partners to increase awareness through community outreach events. The Occupant Protection Center provides support for over 1,000 trained child passenger safety technicians in TN through continuing education training, community engagement and resources. Julie has been a CPST since 2010 and a CPST Instructor since 2019 and is the TN child Passenger Safety State coordinator appointed by the TN Highway Safety Office. Julie holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the State University of New York at Oswego. She is deeply passionate about increasing awareness of the importance of child passenger safety and buckling up for everyone in the car. Julie believes building relationships with the communities of Tennessee will improve understanding and acceptance of best practices and improve everyone's safety as they travel the roads of our great state.

Kim Strong, Memphis Fire Department & President of TFPEA. Kim is a 20 year veteran of the Memphis Fire Service, holding fire credentials, Fire and Life Safety Educator 1, and Master's degrees from both Christian Brothers University and Memphis Theological Seminary. She will be discussing community engagement - Know your Audience to Benefit your Program and Grant Opportunities. She will also discuss her new Safety Trailer!!