

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

October  
2022

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

64th Year

(1959-2023)

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The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors is a non-profit organization and was established on September 30, 1959. MIFDI's mission is "to promote fire department training and education by the mutual sharing of knowledge".

**THE MIFDI OFFICERS - 2022**

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department (Retired)  
 Vice President: Deputy Chief Christopher Kelley, Concord Fire Department (Retired)  
 Secretary: Vacant  
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired)

**THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS**

**Terms Expire 2022**

Chief Thomas Conway, III, Billerica Fire Department (Retired)  
 Assistant Chief Robert MacKendrick, Lynnfield Fire Department (Retired)  
 Chief Richard Gomes, Norton Fire Department (Retired)

**Terms Expire 2021**

Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired) (Past President)  
 Chief James M. Vuona, Shrewsbury Fire Department

**EDITOR**

Firefighter / Instructor Scott D. Maker, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired)

**VISIT US ON THE WEB!**

**www.mifdi.org**

**E-MAIL- mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org**

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216**  
**2023 Membership Application & Invoice**  
**Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2023**

**Your MIFDI Dues  
are due Jan. 1st**



**or Join MIFDI for  
the first time.**

**Membership Information**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City & State** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone (Home)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**E-mail Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fax (Home)** \_\_\_\_\_


**Work Information**

**Department** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Rank** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone (work)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fax (work)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address (work)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City & State (work)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Membership Type:</u></b>	<b><u>Send Bulletin To:</u></b>	<b><u>Membership Dues:</u></b>
<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>Active</u></b> \$ 35.00
<b><u>Active</u></b>	<b><u>Home</u></b>	<b><u>Retired</u></b> \$ 15.00
<b><u>Retired</u></b>	<b><u>Work</u></b>	<b><u>Associate</u></b> \$100.00
<b><u>Associate</u></b>	<b><u>E-mail</u></b>	

**There is also a \$10 late fee if dues are paid after April 1st**  
 Please mail completed Application with check or money order payable to:


MIFDI  
 Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer  
 PO Box 507  
 Merrimac, MA 01860-0510  
 Phone: (978) 346-4731  
 E-mail: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org



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Thinking of moving south?  
Florida a bit too far from family and friends?



Give me a call or text and let's talk about finding you a place in North Carolina!

NC #336267  
REALTOR

### MEETING NOTICE

The October meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, October 26, 2022** hosted by the L.W. Bills Fire Alarm Co. located at 7-9 Park St in Georgetown.

The training program will be provided by L.W. Bills with an informative presentation on the traditional 100-mil fire box system vs the radio box powered by solar. Many communities have been debating the issue of maintaining their current fire alarm system, switching to radio boxes, or eliminating the system completely. This program should provide members with the information needed to answer the questions that arise every year during budget time "Do we still need all those Fire Boxes throughout our community?" Hopefully this presentation will provide us with the answers to debate this issue.

L.W. Bills Co. office also maintains one of the finest displays of fire alarm equipment in all of New England. For those with an interest in the history of fire alarm systems, this is a rare opportunity to view their great collection

**SCHEDULE:** 0930-Coffee, 1000-Presentation, 1100-Facility Tour, 1130-Business Meeting & Discussions, 1200-Lunch (Off Site)

**DIRECTIONS:** L.W. Bills is simple to get to. Take I-95 North to Rt.133 (EXIT 78B). Turn left from the exit onto Main St. Follow Main St approx 2-miles. Park St will be on the right before the Rt.97 traffic light. L.W. Bills Co. is in the yellow building on the right. Members are asked to park in the Municipal Lot (Free) on Main St opp. Park St and walk the short distance to the office. There is also free parking along Main St.



**Municipal Fire Alarm Equipment**  
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**L. W. Bills Co**  
Since 1925 lwbills.com  
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**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning Balances for 01/03/2022  
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$ 154.67  
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$1,097.27  
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$2,318.72  
 Total: \$3,570.66

Bills Paid September 2022:  
 Oct MIFDI Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 09/30  
 Staples - M. Roche \$ 7.44 - 09/29  
 Market Basket- M. Roche - Meeting \$ 14.56 - 09/28  
 Dunkin Coffee - MIFDI Meeting \$ 21.39 - 09/28  
 TOTAL: \$163.39

50/50 Raffle = None  
 Winner = N/A  
 Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

Account Transfers:  
 PCU Savings to Cking - \$120.00 - 09/30  
 PCU Savings to Cking - \$ 72.75 - 09/16

Total active members = 91  
 Dues paid thru 2031 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2030 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2027 = 2  
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2023 = 7  
 Dues paid thru 2022 = 69  
 Dues paid thru 2021 = 3  
 Dues paid thru 2020 = 7

Mailings  
 E-Mail - 62 Home - 20  
 Work - 9  
 Total: 91

Balances as of 10/19/2022  
 Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 151.43  
 Less uncleared checks: \$ ( 0.00)  
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 151.43  
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 1,753.46  
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,370.47  
 Total \$ 4,275.36

Membership Totals: 91  
 52 Active - 35 Retired - 4 Associate

There are no new members who recently joined or rejoined MIFDI.

*Treasurer Notes:*

- (a) Please remember to look at your mailing label for the PAID THROUGH date. Thank you to all of you who have paid your dues. **Your 2023 will be due in January, 2023. Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2022 for your 2022 dues**
- (b) You may now use the 2022 membership application as your invoice. It has MIFDI's tax ID number listed, for your accounts payable department to process the dues payment. Simply use the dues year or payment date as your invoice number.
- (c) All 2022 dues payments mailed in Dec., Jan., Feb. & March have been deposited..

Respectfully submitted  
 10/19/2022  
 by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer - 978-346-4731  
 Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

Thank you for your continued support and for the prompt payment of your dues!

MIFDI will also accept credit card payments. Contact Michael McLeieer for details.

Active Member dues is \$35 / Retired Member dues is \$15 / Associate Member dues is \$100

Please remember to still add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2022. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2022.

\*\* If you are a Comcast internet subscriber, you may NOT be receiving the MIFDI monthly emails. Please contact me if you are not receiving your digital Bulletin and email notifications. Thanks.  
 Michael

MIFDI is now on Facebook. Login to your Facebook account and search for **Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors or visit [www.facebook.com/mifdi](http://www.facebook.com/mifdi)**. Become a Facebook friend to MIFDI and receive up to date announcements right to your tablet, phone or computer. You may also select the MIFDI Facebook link on the MIFDI website home page at [www.mifdi.org](http://www.mifdi.org)



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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS may be addressed to:  
MIFDI - Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer  
PO Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860-0510  
Phone: (978) 346-4731

PLEASE NOTE NEW Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

\*Dues are \$35.00 per year for Active members \*(\$45 after April 1st)  
\$15.00 for Retired members \*(\$25 after April 1st)  
\*100.00 per year for Associate members

(which includes a 1/4 page of advertising in the MIFDI Bulletin and on the MIFDI website).


\* Membership dues are for one calendar year (January 1 through December 31).  
Dues are due by January 1st. Add a \$10.00 Late Fee after April 1, 2022.

### RECALL OF MEETING #2022-09

The September meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday September 28, 2022 hosted by the Danvers Fire Department courtesy of Chief Robert Amerault. The meeting was held in the Training Room of Danvers Fire HQ.

The training program was provided by Chief Paul Parisi of the Ipswich Fire Department. Paul offered a powerful presentation of a MAYDAY incident which occurred when he was Chief of Dept. in Salem NH. The program included audio of radio transmissions and lessons learned from this incident.






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**October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

### Breast Cancer In Men

For men, the lifetime risk of getting breast cancer is about

# 1 in 833


Less than 1% of all breast cancer develops in men; however, men carry a higher mortality rate due to lack of awareness

It is estimated that among U.S. and Canadian men in 2021, there will be

**2,650** NEW CASES OF BREAST CANCER & **240** BREAST CANCER DEATHS

**BREAST SIZE**  
Because men have very little breast tissue, it is easier for men and their health care professionals to feel small masses (tumors). On the other hand, because men have so little breast tissue, cancers do not need to grow very far to spread to nearby tissues or lymph nodes.

Brought to you by the International Association of Fire Fighters

In 2021, it is estimated that among U.S. and Canadian women there will be

**288,950** NEW CASES OF BREAST CANCER  
**54,390** BREAST CANCER DEATHS

**1 in 8** women will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime.

When detected and treated early, 5-year relative survival for localized breast cancer is **99%**

**REMEMBER TO GET AN ANNUAL MAMMOGRAM, ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE OVER THE AGE OF 40.**

Brought to you by the International Association of Fire Fighters

**LAST ALARM**

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of the following;

**Fire Captain Mark A. Ryan** of the Swampscott Fire Department. Capt. Ryan died on September 12, 2022 from occupational cancer at age 57.



*May He Rest In Peace*

**CONGRATULATIONS**

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations and support to MIFDI member Deputy Chief **Justin Woodside** of the Weston Fire Department upon his appointment to Chief of Dept. on September 21, 2022.

At the same ceremony, MIFDI member Lt. **Dean Munson** was promoted to Captain.

Congratulations to both Justin & Dean!



**Firesetting  
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**[www.fire-exchange.org](http://www.fire-exchange.org)**

Call **Scott Maker**, Firefighter/Merrimac Fire Department, with any questions you may have.

**269-492-3341**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

October 24, 2022: Statewide Exam – Municipal Firefighter

October 26, 2022: MIFDI – Georgetown

November 6, 2022: End of Daylight Saving Time

November 16, 2022: MIFDI – Natick

November 19, 2022: Statewide Exam – Fire Lieut & Fire Captain  
*Good Luck!*





### **REPORT of the PRESIDENT:**

I thank our September presenter, Chief Paul Parisi for the informative MAYDAY presentation that he shared with MIFDI members. I also thank Chief Robert Amerault for hosting MIFDI at Danvers Fire HQ.

**(An important message for ALL MIFDI members)** We continuously try to schedule training presentations with a goal to inform and educate our members each month. Many presenters are requested months in advance and re-arrange their schedule to offer their program for us. I find it discouraging and at times embarrassing when a presenter arrives to our meetings, often on their own time, and see only a hand full of members in the classroom. I am aware that most members, especially training officers are spread thin trying to multi-task with numerous responsibilities, however, MIFDI training meetings are only one morning each month, a total of 3-hours at most including drive time. Members should be able to block out one morning each month on your calendar to attend the meetings for your own educational benefit. I have learned something at EVERY meeting that I have attended in the past 35-years!

Stay safe and I hope to see you in Georgetown on October 26.



*“To Promote Fire Department Training & Education by the Mutual Sharing of Knowledge”*

### **INSTRUCTORS CORNER**

If things in Florida are not bad enough with the major flooding and massive destruction of structures from Hurricane IAN, Florida firefighters are now dealing with an influx of Tesla's and other electric vehicles igniting due to corrosion of the batteries from the saturation of salt water in the battery holding areas. According to the Florida State Fire Marshall, there are a large amount of electric vehicle fires due to the effects of IAN creating a whole new challenge for firefighters. There is stored energy in the batteries of these vehicles, although the vehicle is submerged in water, it does NOT mean that the energy has dissipated. It is a recipe for a serious hazard when exposing the electric components with salt water.

As previously reported, electric vehicles require thousands of gallons of water to extinguish. It may take hours to extinguish and they can reignite days later as the batteries react to the effects of the decomposition. The state of Florida has 95000 registered electric vehicles, second only to California in the U.S. This has caused an incredible amount of electric vehicle incidents that firefighters are now dealing with in a whole new scale.



**(PRESIDENTS NOTE)** This is one of many articles pertaining to electric vehicle incidents that we will continue to share as we find solutions to deal with these challenges. We don't need a hurricane to cause problems with EV's, localized flooding conditions with EV's navigating through deep puddles and flooded underpasses can compromise the batteries. For now, it is recommended that these EV fires receive an initial response of TWO engine companies, one for attack and one for water supply. Once they are safe to remove, be sure to record the tow company and the location that the vehicle is being towed to. These vehicles should be stored in an open area or parking lot away from structures and other combustibles. Hopefully they are located close to a municipal hydrant or other continuous water supply. If needed, call for a public works front-end loader to overturn the vehicle for easier access to the undercarriage battery storage. Prepare for a long-duration incident to completely extinguish these fires. Finally, don't feel defeated at your crew's inability to extinguish an EV fire, these vehicles can reignite multiple times due to battery degradation.