

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

January-February  
2021

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

62nd Year  
(1959-2021)

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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 - 2019**

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department  
 Vice President: Deputy Chief Christopher Kelley, Concord Fire Department (Retired)  
 Secretary: Captain Edward (Ted) D. Quinn, Jr., Peabody Fire Department  
 Treasurer: Lieutenant / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Olivet Fire Department

**THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS**

**Terms Expire 2020**

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 2019**

Lieutenant / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Olivet Fire Department (Past President)  
 Chief James M. Vuona, Shrewsbury Fire Department

**EDITOR**

Firefighter / Instructor Scott D. Maker, Olivet Fire Department

**VISIT US ON THE WEB!**

**www.mifdi.org**

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

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216  
 2021 Membership Application & Invoice  
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2021**

**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>Retired</u></b>	<b><u>Retired</u></b> \$ 15.00
<b><u>Retired</u></b>	<b><u>Associate</u></b>	<b><u>Associate</u></b> \$100.00
<b><u>Associate</u></b>	<b><u>Home</u></b>	
<b><u>Home</u></b>	<b><u>Work</u></b>	
<b><u>Work</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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## MEETING NOTICE

We continue to be on hold with our monthly meeting schedules as are most organizations to be on the safe side of this pandemic and the mandatory social distancing requirements in the Commonwealth.

Mass.Gov

[Return to MassCareers](#)



An Official website of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MassCareers Job Opportunities

### Job Description

#### Director, MA Firefighting Academy - (2000089W) Description

The Department of Fire Services seeks a Director who is a seasoned manager in an environment of similar complexity who can provide effective leadership, communication, and management to a specialized training organization steeped in tradition. This is not a learning position.

MINIMUM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must have at least (A) five years of full-time, or equivalent part-time, supervisory or managerial experience in business administration, business management, or public administration and (B) of which at least one year must have been in a managerial capacity.

**An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer. Females, minorities, veterans, and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.**

**Official Title:** Administrator VII

**Primary Location** United States-Massachusetts-Stow-State Road

**Job** Public Safety

**Agency** Department of Fire Services

**Schedule** Full-time

**Shift** Day

**Posting Date** Jan 13, 2021

**Number of Openings** 1

**Salary** 44,590.00 - 128,347.01 Yearly

**If you have Diversity, Affirmative Action or Equal Employment Opportunity questions or need a Reasonable Accommodation, please contact Diversity Officer / ADA Coordinator: Mary Travers - 978-567-3145**

**Bargaining Unit:** M99-Managers (EXE)

**Confidential:** No

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning Balances for 01/02/2021  
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$123.03  
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$386.21  
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$2,314.28  
 Total: \$2,823.52

**Bills Paid February 2021:**  
 Jan/Feb Bulletin mailed - Michael \$120.00  
 Constant Contact - Email - Michael \$168.00  
 TOTAL: \$288.00

50/50 Raffle = None

Winner = N/A

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

Account Transfers:: None

Total active members = 88

Dues paid thru 2027 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2022 = 2  
 Dues paid thru 2021 = 25  
 Dues paid thru 2020 = 47  
 Dues paid thru 2019 = 12

Mailings  
 E-Mail - 55 Home - 19  
Work - 14  
 Total: 88

Balances as of 02/27/2021

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 310.37  
 Less uncleared checks: \$ ( 288.00)  
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 2237  
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 786.21  
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,315.77  
 Total \$ 3,124.35

Membership Totals: 88  
 53 Active - 31 Retired - 4 Associate

We welcome this new member who joined MIFDI in January, 2021.

- Todd Arruda - Lieutenant (Acting Captain) - Somerset

*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 2021 dues are due in January, 2021.**  
**Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2021 for your 2021 dues.**

(b) You may now use the 2021 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.

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, late fees for dues payments will be waived.**

Respectfully submitted

02/27/2021

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

978-346-4731

Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

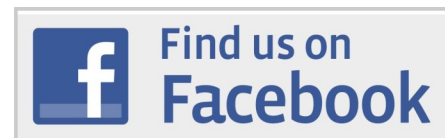
Thank you for your continued support and for the prompt payment of your dues!

**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, 2021. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2021.**

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](https://www.facebook.com/mifdi). Become a Facebook friend to MIFDI and receive up to date announcements right to your PDA, Blackberry 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, 2021.

## RECALL OF MEETING #2020-12

After a very long year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was refreshing to have members gather for our annual MIFDI Holiday Luncheon on December 16, 2020 at the Café' Escadrille in Burlington. Although we were restricted to separate tables of 6 and required to meet the guidelines of a 90-minute dining time, it was a chance for members to catch up and share a few laughs during a delightful lunch before the holidays.





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- ☐ Paratech

*Our New Location*  
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Dedham, MA 02026  
617-325-3993








## EMS Run

### ***What would you have done in this situation?***

An Oklahoma City fire officer was disciplined for transporting a young burn victim to the hospital in the fire engine due to an extended ETA for the ambulance. The initial complaint against the officer was forwarded by EMSA, the EMS provider for the city.

#### **THE BRIEF SCENAREO IS AS FOLLOWS:**

The original call was dispatched at 1905 for a toddler with 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns all over her body. At 1905, the first fire unit arrived on scene and administered patient care. At 1917, the officer requested EMSA to upgrade the call to "Priority 1". At 1922, the officer requested an ETA for the ambulance. EMSA reported they were responding from the "Mercy" area. At 1929, the officer reported that the parents were taking the child to the hospital in a private vehicle due to the seriousness of the injury and to cancel the ambulance. At 1930, the officer felt that the child could not wait any longer and made a decision to transport her in the fire apparatus. Dispatch reported that the EMS unit was ½ mile from the scene.

The EMS system was experiencing delays throughout the city due to the Covid-19 pandemic with longer than normal wait times during emergencies. The firefighters on scene were frustrated waiting for 20-minutes with a pediatric burn victim (*We have all experienced the increased anxiety level anytime a child is involved*).

The result of the disciplinary hearing was that the veteran fire officer was relieved of his Command of Station 34 but will keep his pay and rank status. He will face "Internal Corrective Measures". According to the Chief, "We don't transport patients; that is not our job". "The EMS policy is also a state statute".

The child recovered from her injuries and the parents stated that "the system failed us" but were forever grateful and supportive of the officers decision.

*Every situation is different. There are times when we bend the rules to do what is best for the people that we are sworn to help and protect. There is no easy answer. What would you have done in this situation???*

## LAST ALARM:

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

Former MIFDI member **Chief Thomas J. Barry** of the Norwood Fire Department died on January 22, 2021 in Sarasota FL. Tom served as MIFDI President in 1970 when he was Chief of Department in Acton.  
*May He Rest In Peace*



**Firefighter Raymond C. Johnson** ACTIVE of the Boston Fire Department (Engine 2). Ray died as a result of occupational cancer on December 6, 2020 at Age 61.

**Chief Robert C. Craig** of the Acton Fire Department (Retired) died on December 11, 2020 at age 73 after a battle with cancer. Bob served on the Massachusetts Fire Training Council for 20-years.

**Firefighter Michael Ricci** of the Boston Fire Department (D-9 Aide) died on January 28, 2021 after a domestic attack while off duty.

*May They Rest In Peace*



## CONGRATULATIONS

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to **MFA Director David Evans** who has stepped down from his position as Director of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy effective December 31, 2020. Dave has accepted appointment as a full-time member of his local fire department. We wish him well in his new position after serving as MFA Director since April 2017.



## **Firesetting Intervention Resource Exchange**

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community for Firefighters,  
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  - Juvenile Justice & Court Personnel
    - Mental Health Professionals

**[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:

Things are loosening up a bit due to a reduction in the amount of confirmed covid cases as well as the vaccine becoming more readily available. We are hopeful that by the spring of 2021, events will slowly be returning to a “new normal” and we will post them here once confirmed.





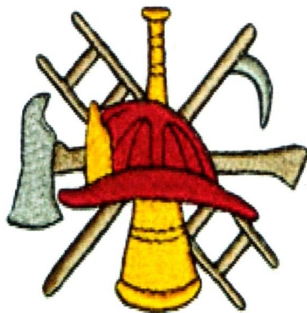
## **REPORT of the PRESIDENT:**

### **Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department**

With 2020 now behind us, it will end what has been a terrible year. Hopefully everyone remained safe and healthy as we cope with this international pandemic. I thank everyone for your patient's and understanding with hopes of returning to our "normal" monthly meetings in 2021.

We are entertaining the possibility of holding some virtual meetings via Zoom until we can meet in person once again. This has become very popular for many organizations since the pandemic. We will keep everyone advised and walk through the process with members unsure of this technology as it is a new venture for many of us.

With that announcement, we ask members who would prefer to remain active in MIFDI to submit your dues payment for 2021 with hopes that we will return to meeting again in the near future. Many have already submitted their dues including our Associate members which is helpful for us to support the current bi-monthly bulletin and payment for our website server each year. I know that this is a difficult time to ask for payment when we have not held a training meeting in almost a year but I reassure you that MIFDI is alive and well and will continue into the future as an informative fire service training organization. Dues will remain at \$35 for Active, \$15 for Retired and \$100 for Associate. Send checks to: **MIFDI, PO Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860**



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

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER:**

### ***New Highway Exit Numbers***

MassDOT has started changing the highway exit numbers to comply with the federal mandate to have exit numbers correspond with highway mile-markers. The expected benefit of the change includes easier vehicle mileage tracking and to provide more accurate emergency responses.

DOT crews are making these changes during the overnight hours so remain aware that exit numbers may literally change overnight on the highways in your communities. The old numbers will however continue to be posted on a yellow sign below the new green sign for a minimum of two years to help with any confusion.

It might be advisable to create visor cards for your apparatus and EMS units with the exit number changes on the highways in your community.

Experience shows that during an MVA, car fire or medical emergency, many motorists driving on the highway do not even know what community they are in, let alone a cross street. It is always a challenge when responding to incidents on the highway. I know that whenever we were given a location using a mile-marker, it was of little value. Give me a bridge, cross street or a landmark. So now, once you learn your new exit numbers, you should be able to pinpoint the location of the mile-marker situated before or after the exit.

