

# The MIFDI BULLETIN



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

December  
2023

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

65th Year  
(1959-2024)

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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 - 2023**

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 2024**

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 2023**

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**  
**2024 Membership Application & Invoice**  
**Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2024**

**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**

*Also email application to Michael McLeieer at*  
*E-mail: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org*



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**\*800-522-8528\* [www.Fire-Police-EMS.com](http://www.Fire-Police-EMS.com)**

### MEETING NOTICE

The December meeting of MIFDI will be our Annual Holiday Luncheon for members to get together during the holiday season. This "Social Luncheon" during the past few years has been very well received as we break bread and break some chops!

The lunch will take place on **Wednesday, December 20, 2023 @ 11:45 am** at the CAFÉ ESCADRILLE, 26 Cambridge St, Burlington. We will have a table reserved from 11:45-1:30. They have a nice variety of lunch menu items reasonably priced.

We hope to see many old faces attend as well as those members planning to retire in 2024 and moving to a new chapter in their life. For those who wish to attend, shoot me an email at [captroche@aol.com](mailto:captroche@aol.com) or leave me a message at [617-418-0895](tel:617-418-0895) to ensure that we have adequate seating for our group.

### DIRECTIONS:

From Rt.128/I-95, take Exit 51A onto Rt.3 South towards Winchester. The restaurant is located a short distance on the left. There is plenty of free parking available.



COASTAL SELECT  
PROPERTIES

## Glen Rogers

Your Fire Chief Realtor  
Friend in North Carolina

Chief.g.a.rogers@gmail.com 508-654-2625

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning Balances for 01/03/2023

Preferred C.U. Checking \$ 121.56

Preferred C.U. Savings \$1,250.83

CapitalOneSav. Balance \$2,371.06

Total: \$3,743.45

Bills November 2023:

Dec. MIFDI Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 11/26

Staples - Roche - Supplies \$ 9.05 - 11/05

Market Basket - Roche - Pastry - Mtg. \$ 8.98 - 11/15

Dunkin - Roche - Coffee - Meeting \$ 47.06 - 11/16

TOTAL: \$185.09

50/50 Raffle = \$90.00

Winner = Capt Tim Marks, Quincy Fire - \$45.00

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$45.00

Account Transfers:

None

Total active members = 103

Dues paid thru 2031 = 1

Dues paid thru 2030 = 2

Dues paid thru 2027 = 1

Dues paid thru 2025 = 1

Dues paid thru 2024 = 11

Dues paid thru 2023 = 60

Dues paid thru 2022 = 20

Dues paid thru 2021 = 1

Dues paid thru 2020 = 6

Mailings

E-Mail - 76 Home - 18

Work - 9

Total: 103

Balances as of 11/26/2023

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 98.82

Less uncleared checks: \$ ( 0.00)

PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 98.82

PCU Savings Balance: \$ 1,309.44

Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,373.04

Total \$ 3,781.30

Membership Totals: 103

58 Active - 41 Retired - 4 Associate

There are no new members who recently joined MIFDI.

- None

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 2024 will be due in January, 2023.**  
**Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2023 for your 2023 dues.**

(b) You may now use the 2024 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.

The MIFDI website is now hosted on a new server. This transition was completed in August and you should no longer have access issues. Our new hosting site has more capacity for our members to simultaneously access www.mifdi.org. If you are having connection issues, please contact Michael.

Respectfully submitted

11/26/2023

by Michael McLeier, Treasurer - 978-346-4731

Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

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

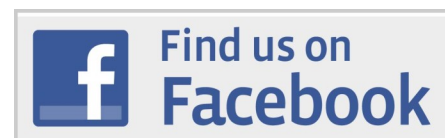
MIFDI will also accept credit card payments. Contact Michael McLeier for details.

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

\*\* 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

Please remember to still add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2023. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2023.

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 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, 2023.**

## RECALL OF MEETING

### #2023-11

The November meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday November 15, 2023 hosted by the Natick Fire Department courtesy of Chief Jason Ferschke and Captain Chris Hampton of the Training Division. The meeting was held in the training room of Natick Station 4.

The training was provided by Josh Commoss and Dan Brennan from "Seek Thermal". They offered members with an overview and demonstration of the great advancements and improvements of the Thermal Imaging Camera. What was once a heavy and awkward tool is now the size of a smart-phone with significantly improved imaging.

FirePRO™ 300





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**PARATECH**

## EMS RUN

### ***Flu Season***

The 2023-2024 flu season is now underway. According to the CDC, the flu season in the United States is from October to March. Many people think of the flu as a seasonal nuisance that everyone tries to avoid. Seldom is it thought of as life-threatening except for the elderly or those with weakened immune systems, usually associated with other medical issues.

Flu symptoms usually present with the following:

- Fever or feeling feverish associated with chills

- Cough

- Sore throat

- Runny or stuffy nose

- Muscle or body aches

- Fatigue

- Some may experience vomiting or diarrhea (more common in children)

*Below are some basic rules for EMS incidents involving flu patients;*

Transport the flu patient with any of the following symptoms;

- Breathing problems

- Difficulty keeping fluids down

- Fever that will not break

- Appearing to get better only to have fever go up again

- Change in mental status

- Underlying medical conditions

Remember to protect yourselves when responding on an EMS run with a patient experiencing flu symptoms. Use the N95 mask for you and apply one on the patient.

## LAST ALARM

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of former MIFDI member **Chief C. Randall Sherman** of the Yarmouth Fire Department. Randy died on November 1, 2023 at age 71 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He retired in 2008 after 37-years on the YFD and was a strong advocate of training, formerly serving as an Instructor at the Barnstable Fire Training Center.



*May He Rest In Peace*



## CONGRATULATIONS

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers congratulations to the members of the twenty-two communities in Massachusetts recognized for their heroic efforts and extraordinary contributions to the fire service. Congratulations to them all!



## 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Firefighter of the Year Awards

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023

MECHANICS HALL

321 Main Street • Worcester, MA 01608

## HEROIC AWARDS CEREMONY

Honoring the dedication and sacrifice of the brave men and women of the  
Massachusetts Fire Service

*Ashland, Brockton, Chelmsford, Chelsea, Chicopee, East Longmeadow,  
Everett, Hingham, Holbrook, Hopkinton, Lawrence, Longmeadow, Lynn,  
Nantucket, New Bedford, Rockland, Somerville, Stoneham, Sunderland,  
West Springfield, Weymouth, and Whitman*

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2024

January 15-17, 2024: Chief's Summit Educational Symposium  
Islamorada, FL [www.chiefssummit.com](http://www.chiefssummit.com)

January 17-18, 2024: FDSOA Health & Safety Conference  
St. Pete Beach, FL [www.fdsoa.org](http://www.fdsoa.org)

January 24, 2024: MIFDI

February 27-28, 2024: FCAM 2024 Professional Conference  
DCU Center, Worcester [www.fcaml.org](http://www.fcaml.org)

## **REPORT of the PRESIDENT:**

### **Captain Mark W. Roche (Ret), Newton Fire Department**

Our November meeting was hosted by the Natick Fire Department in the training room of their Station 4 in West Natick. I thank our host Chief Jason Ferschke and Captain Chris Hampton for again allowing us use of their facility.

I thank those who provided the training program on the new Thermal Imaging camera from SEEK THERMAL, Josh Commoss and Dan Brennan. Special thanks again Pat O'Connor from Northeast Rescue Systems for arranging this presentation for MIFDI.

Stay safe and I hope to see you in Burlington on December 20. For those unable to attend, I wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Blessed Holiday Season



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

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER**

### ***FIRE APPARATUS TACTICS***

### ***TOOLS OF THE TRADE***

### ***QUICK TIP GUIDE***



*It is interesting to see deck guns/ stacked tips being used at massive fires where they have lots of water and firefighters don't remove the extra stacked tips. The difference in reach is small but the flow is doubled from the small to the large. Unless you are specifically trying to have less water application (weight/collapse implications on a fire damaged building) use the big tip!*