

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

March
2025

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

66th Year

(1959-2025)

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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 - 2024

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 2026

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 2025

Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired) (Past President)
 Chief James M. Vuona, (Retired) 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
2025 Membership Application & Invoice
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2025

**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 _____

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

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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REALTOR

MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, March 26, 2025**. We will be hosted once again by the Natick Fire Department, 22 East Central St. (Rt.135) courtesy of Chief Jason Ferschke and Training Captain Ciro SanSossio. We will meet in the Public Safety Amphitheatre, enter from the rear parking lot to the right of the rear apparatus doors. MIFDI last met at this location for our March 2019 meeting.

The training will be provided by Dave Parr who will offer us an update on the FEMA grant programs including; the timeframe for filing, the item requests that receive the best success, and what to expect with recent reductions in government spending.

SCHEDULE:

0930 Coffee, **1000** Presentation, **1130** Business Meeting, **1200** Lunch (off site).

DIRECTIONS: From Rt. 128/I 95 take Rt.9 WEST in Wellesley to Rt.27 SOUTH in Natick. Continue SOUTH on Rt.27 for 3-traffic lights, that will be Rt.135. Turn left on Rt.135 to the second left, that is Clarendon St which brings you to the parking lot in the rear of the Public Safety Bldg.

From the Mass Pike (I 90), Take EXIT 117 to Rt. 30 EAST. Follow Rt.30 to Rt. 27 (3-lights). Turn right on Rt.27 SOUTH to Rt. 135. Turn left on Rt.135 EAST to the second left which is Clarendon St. which brings you to the parking lot in the rear of the Public Safety Bldg.



FEMA

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/02/2025
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$ 115.06
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$ 950.97
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$2,374.79
 Grand Total \$3,440.82

Bills February, 2025 - Checking:
 March Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 02/28
 DFS Xmas Plant (Michael) - K. Weihm \$ 75.24 - 02/28
TOTAL: \$195.24

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

Account Transfers:
 None

Total active members = 84

Dues paid thru 2031 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2030 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2027 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2026 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2025 = 48
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 19
 Dues paid thru 2023 = 10

Mailings

E-Mail - 58 Home - 16
 Work - 10
 Total: 84

Balances as of 03/14/2025

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 1,006.33
 Less uncleared checks: \$ (0.00)
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 1,006.33
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 950.97
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,375.17
 Grand Total \$ 4,332.47

Membership Totals: 84
 45 Active - 35 Retired - 4 Associate

We don't have any new members who joined 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 2025 dues are due in January, 2025. Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2025 for your 2025 dues. Invoices have already been sent to those members who have their department pay their dues. Please watch your mail!**
- (b) You may now use the 2025 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) **New members**, email your application to MifdiTreasurer@escapeinc.org (so we can promptly set you up to receive The Bulletin, due to mail and payment processing delays).

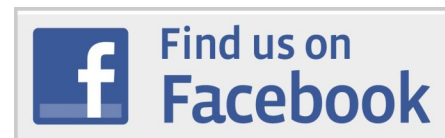
Respectfully submitted 03/14/2025
 by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer - 978-346-4731
 Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org
 Thank you for your continued support and for the prompt payment of your dues!

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

**** 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!**

Please remember to still add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2025. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renew before April 1, 2025.

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**. 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



Like MIFDI on Twitter @MIFDIFIRE or @MIFDI



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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). **Late fee does not apply to new members.**

*** 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, 2025.


New members, please email your completed membership application to MifdiTreasurer@escapeinc.org so we can promptly set you up to receive The MIFDI Bulletin (due to delays in mail processing and delay in payments received from cities and towns). Also, include your completed membership application with your payment.

RECALL OF MEETING #2025-02

The February meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday February 26, 2025 hosted by the Department of Fire Services at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy – Stow Campus. We were greeted by Dean Babineau who welcomed MIFDI on behalf of Fire Marshal Jon Devine.

The training provided members an opportunity to look over the new mobile RIT trailer prop with a bailout demonstration by MFA Instructors. Following the RIT prop, we were then offered a look at the new mobile Incident Support Trailer which was also on display. Both of these new units are available for communities and are another great resource provided through DFS.








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- Mercedes Textiles Hose
- BW Technologies
- Genesis Rescue System
- Koehler-Bright Star
- Paratech


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EMS RUN

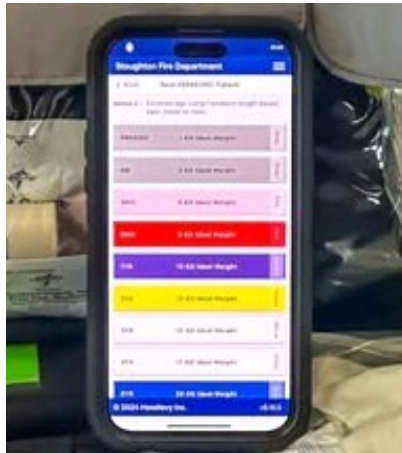
Handtevy System

For those who have not heard of the Handtevy System, it was developed by an emergency room physician with the goal of improving care and outcomes of the pediatric patient during medical emergencies. The components include a first in bag dividing pediatric EMS equipment by size and age ranges.

The bag is multi-functional and organized with seven color-coded pouches following industry-standard age-based designations allowing swift identification of equipment sizes for the pediatric patient. The bag can be worn as a backpack, shoulder bag, or side grip handle.

There is also a smart phone app to assist providers with calculating appropriate doses of medication as well as defibrillation energy settings and proper sizes of medical equipment.

You can learn more about this System at: www.handtevy.com



LAST ALARM

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

Assistant Chief William “Bill” Barry (Retired) of the Methuen Fire Department. Bill was an active Instructor at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy and very well liked and respected by all who knew him. Bill died unexpectedly on February 27, 2025 at age 62.



May He Rest In Peace

CONGRATULATIONS

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our belated congratulations to MIFDI member **Chief Joseph P. Guarnera** upon his retirement in December 2024 from the Athol Fire Department. Joe began his fire service career on the Revere Fire Department. After 20-years in Revere, he accepted the position as Assistant Chief on the Berlin Fire Department. Three years later, he was appointed Chief of Department in Athol where he served for the past six years. He also served with the Department of Fire Services for 18- years. We wish Joe good health and happiness for the future.



UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

March 26, 2025: MIFDI – Natick

March 27-29: Wildland Urban Interface Conference
Kansas City, MO www.iafc.org

March 29, 2025: American Lung “Fight for Air Climb”
One Boston Place www.lung.org

April 7-9, 2025: FDIC 2025 Conference & Expo
Indianapolis, IN www.fdic.com

April 12, 2025: Statewide Exam: Lieutenant & Captain

April 19, 2025: America’s 250 Anniversary

April 21, 2025: Boston Marathon

April 23, 2025: MIFDI-



REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

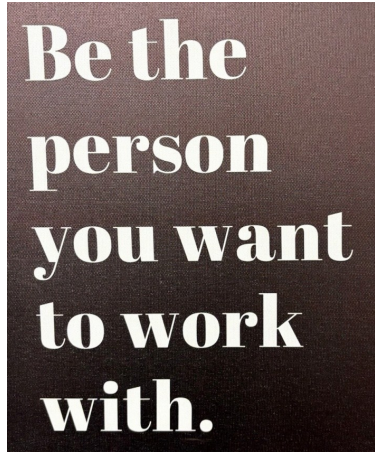
Captain Mark W. Roche (Ret), Newton Fire Department

Our February meeting hosted again by the Department of Fire Services at the Stow Campus of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy providing another informative presentation offered to MIFDI members. I thank the staff and instructors at MFA for their demonstration and display of their latest props and support units.

A reminder for members to renew their annual dues to keep MIFDI operating for the future. The dues remain at; **ACTIVE \$35.00, RETIRED \$15.00, ASSOCIATE \$100.** Dues can be paid at the meetings or mailed to **MIFDI Treasurer PO Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860**

Hopefully this is a final reminder of the season that winter meeting cancellations are strictly for the safety of our members and presenters. We use the same cancellation guideline as the Mass Fire Academy and we will post cancellations on the MIFDI website at www.mifdi.org

Stay safe and we hope to see you in Natick on March 26.



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

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

Are your hose loads secured?

Recently there has been another report of hose dislodging from fire apparatus while responding to an incident in North Carolina. As the engine rounded the corner of a busy intersection, a line fell of the rig striking two people on the sidewalk. Both victims were transported to a local hospital with serious injuries. The apparatus driver is on Administrative Leave pending the results of the accident investigation.

As we all know, fire apparatus provides the greatest blanket of safety to our citizens more than any other agency in our community. A fire company is always there for help 24/7/365, not to cause injury or death to those we are trying to protect. These types of accidents are unacceptable and preventable with the exception of the failure of a bracket or equipment tie-down. Newer apparatus are equipped with secured canvas or netting over hose loads. The cargo netting proves to be very strong, durable and provides ventilation to the damp hose load. The only flaw with the netting, you **MUST** ensure that it is refastened after use. If this is not part of your daily apparatus checklist, it should be the responsibility of the driver to make sure the covers are secure during the morning apparatus check.

Dropping equipment on the road during a run is not only costly, it can and has caused damage to other vehicles and seriously injure innocent people on the street. It will also cause a delay to the original emergency that the company was responding to. A neatly packed hose bed not only looks nice, it is safer. The folds of the hose should not protrude beyond the hose bed. Nozzles should not be placed close to the edge but not exceeding an arm length in. The use rabbit ear loops should be avoided to keep the netting snug. If your hydrant gate is pre-connected and mounted on the rear-step, it should be securely fastened to avoid bouncing off and dropping the bed of feed-line down Main St!



ACCEPTABLE



UN-ACCEPTABLE