

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

April
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 April Meeting will be a change of venue. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday April 23, 2025 at 11:30 AM**

(NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME).

The Training program will be a 90-minute presentation on local gas pipeline and distribution systems with a focus on proper operations during emergencies. For those who attended this informative presentation in the past, it is worth seeing again. Those who missed it should take the time to attend this training.

The seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, 55 Ariadne Rd, Dedham off Rt.1 at Rt. I-95. The program is Free and includes a buffet lunch afterwards. Coffee will also be provided at the beginning. EMT's will receive ConEd credit for attending.

NOTE: They ask that you register by April 18 to ensure enough seating, handouts and food is available. You can register on-line at www.pdigm.com. If you have a problem with registration, send me an email and I will register you: captroche@aol.com

DIRECTIONS: Take I-95 to Rt.1 south (Exit 29A). When entering Rt.1, move to the left lane to turn left at the first traffic light onto Elm St. Follow Elm St a short distance to the traffic light and turn left on Washington St. Then take the very first light on Ariadne Rd. There is plenty of free on-site parking.

REGISTER

PROGRAM & VENUE INFORMATION

CoRE Program

April 23, 2025

Registration: 11:30 AM ET

Duration: 120 minutes

HOLIDAY INN -DEDHAM HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
55 ARIADNE RD
DEDHAM, MA 02026-6086

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Bills March, 2025 - Checking:
 April Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 03/31
 mifdi.org domain SSL renewal-Michael \$175.00 - 03/31
 Dunkin Donuts - Coffee Meeting Roche \$ 48.34 - 03/26
 Roche Bros - Pastry - Roche \$ 13.98 - 03/25
TOTAL: \$357.32

50/50 Raffle = \$60.00
 Winner = Bob Mackendrick - \$30.00
 Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$30.00 Deposited 03-26-2025

Account Transfers:
 PCU Cking to Savings - \$500.00 - 04/01/2025

Total active members = 84
 Dues paid thru 2031 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2030 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2027 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2026 = 3
 Dues paid thru 2025 = 50
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 16
 Dues paid thru 2023 = 10

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

Balances as of 04/02/2025
 Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 239.01
 Less uncleared checks: \$ (0.00)
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 239.01
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 1,451.24
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,375.37
 Grand Total \$ 4,065.62

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

We don't have any new members who joined MIFDI this month.

- 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).

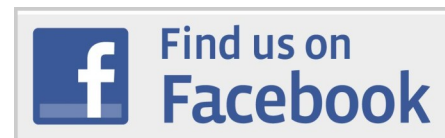
Respectfully submitted 04/02/2025
 by Michael McLeier, Treasurer - 978-346-4731
 Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org
 Thank you for your continued support and for the prompt payment of your dues!

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!

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



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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 #2025-03

The March meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday March 26, 2025 hosted by the Natick Fire Department courtesy of Chief Jason Ferschke and Training Officer Captain Ciro Sansocio. We met in the Natick Public Safety Training Amphitheatre located in the Public Safety Building at 22 East Central St.

The training was an informative presentation by Dave Parr with an update on the FEMA Grant program for 2025 and an explanation of the 3 specific grants; the AFG Grant for equipment, the SAFER Grant for manpower, and the Fire Prevention Grant for public education & safety. He also pointed out the items that receive the most success during the application process. This program was extremely helpful to those applying for grants in 2025.







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PARATECH

EMS RUN

Autism Awareness



Quick facts for EMS:

- Some people with autism do not have a normal range of sensations and may not feel the cold, heat, or pain in a typical manner. In fact they may fail to acknowledge pain in spite of significant pathology being present. They may show an unusual pain response that could include laughter, humming, singing and removing of clothing.
- People with autism often have tactile sensory issues. Band-aids or other adhesive products could increase anxiety and aggression.
- Move slowly, performing exams distal to proximal. Explain what you plan to do in advance and as you do it. Explain where you are going and what they may see and who might be there. This may avert unnecessary anxiety and/or outbursts or aggressions from the patient. People who appear not to understand may have better receptive language, which is not entirely evident.
- Expect the unexpected. Children with autism may ingest something or get into something without their parents realizing it. Look for less obvious causality and inspect carefully for other injuries.
- If possible ask a caregiver what level of support the person with autism needs, then treat accordingly. Stickers, stuffed animals and such which are used to calm young children may be helpful even in older patients.
- Attempt to perform exams in a quiet spot if at all possible, depending on the severity of injury and safety of the scene. Demonstrating what the exam will consist of on another person first may help the person with autism have a visual knowledge of what your intentions are.

www.autismspeaks.org

LAST ALARM

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

Firefighter MICHAEL C. MARTIN of the Peabody Fire Department died on March 1, 2025 at age 62 after a long illness.

Firefighter SCOTT D. CASEY of the Fall River Fire Department died unexpectedly on March 4, 2025 at age 55.

Firefighter DANIEL B. DONAHOE of the Boston Fire Department died suddenly on March 24, 2025 at age 42



Michael Martin



Scott Casey



Danny Donahoe

May They Rest In Peace

CONGRATULATIONS

Nothing to Report

UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

April 12, 2025: Statewide Exam: Lieutenant & Captain

April 13-19, 2025: Public Safety Dispatchers Week

April 19, 2025: 250 Anniversary of the American Revolution

April 21, 2025: Boston Marathon

April 23, 2025: MIFDI - Dedham

April 24: A Day of Mental Health Awareness for 1st Responders
Sweetsir School, Merrimac MA www.nefools.org

May 7, 2025: Statewide Exam: Fire Chief

May 19-23, 2025: New England Fire Investigation Seminar
St. Anselm College, Manchester NH www.newenglandfire.org

May 28, 2025: MIFDI - Burlington

**THANK YOU,
DISPATCHERS!**

NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY
TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK



REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

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

Our March meeting hosted again by the Natick Fire Department was a very informative presentation on the FEMA Grant Program. I thank Dave Parr for providing this program and answering many questions about the process for MIFDI members. I also thank Natick Training Officer Captain SanSocio for accommodating MIFDI at their great facility.

A final 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.** Do not let your membership lapse or you may miss out on important meetings and monthly bulletin information.

Stay safe and we hope to see you in Dedham on April 23.



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

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

Situational Awareness

The National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) is designed to provide information from the Department of Homeland Security regarding terrorist threats against the United States. First Responders as well as ALL American citizens should be aware of the heightened risk of a terrorist attack on American soil.

“The United States remains in a heightened threat environment. Lone offenders and small groups motivated by a range of ideological beliefs and personal grievances continue to pose a persistent and lethal threat to the Homeland. Both domestic violent extremists and those associated with foreign terrorist organizations continue to attempt to motivate supporters to conduct attacks in the Homeland, including through violent extremist messaging and online calls for violence. In the coming months, factors that could mobilize individuals to commit violence include their perceptions of the general election cycle and legislative or judicial decisions pertaining to sociopolitical issues. Likely targets of potential violence include U.S. critical infrastructure, faith-based institutions, individuals or events associated with the LGBTQIA+ community, schools, racial and ethnic minorities, and government facilities and personnel, including law enforcement. “

Although there are no credible threats at this time, the following dates are concerning for local high-profile events;

- April 12: Passover begins at sundown.
- April 14: Holy Week begins concluding with Easter on April 20
- April 19: The 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution
- April 21: Boston Marathon

REMAIN VIGELANT AT ALL TIMES, ESPECIALLY DURING DATES OF HIGH-PROFILE EVENTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY