

# G AFC FIRESIDE

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## LONG TIME FRIEND OF THE GEORGIA FIRE SERVICE RETIRES **DALE MANN HONORED BY COLLEAGUES**



Pres. David Kimbrell

### RENEWED ATTENTION TO FIRE PREVENTION

**Dale Mann** - For many years, Dale attended our annual conferences, contributed ideas on ways to implement the fire service strategic plan, and supported the installation of a Fire Officer Development Program within the Georgia Fire Academy. We couldn't have had a better friend. Our wishes are extended to Dale for success in all his future endeavors.

**Strategic Plan** - The writing effort is now complete and the printed job will soon be available. Advisors requested fewer goals (there will be 10), objectives under each goal that could be accomplished in 36 months and emphasis on the following: training, all the disciplines within the Fire Marshal's office, training instructor certification, heavy emphasis on stakeholder and public relations and far better internal and external communications.

**Fire Prevention**— The 2012 strategic plan contains a goal dealing with Community Management of Risk Reduction. One objective is "to liaison with Vision 20/20 to secure best methods to guide local communities on risk reduction." We're off to good start on the objective. The Fire Academy, in cooperation with Vision 20-20, put on a well attended, 1 day workshop in November. The session focused on the evaluation of fire prevention programs. (see story)



GAFC OFFICIALS WISH DALE THE VERY BEST—  
*From L to R:*  
Chief Bryan Croft, Chief Jon Canada, Dale, Chief Craig Tully, Chief Glen Williams.

### Dwayne Garriss

## A NEW GEORGIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

We've worked with Dwayne for years, however, here are a few things we did not know: **Our new Fire Marshal is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and holds a bachelors degree in architecture. He served in the position of Assistant State Fire Marshal for 18 years overseeing the engineering and inspection division of the SFM's office.**



Commissioner Hudgins appointed Dwayne to his present position in late September. Dwayne served on the Int'l Fire Code Council for ten years and was the chair for the last 2 years. Also: Was President of the Georgia Fire Inspectors Association -1996 & '97, Fire Safety Professional of the Year - 1998 by Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Georgia Chapter Fire Official of the Year- 2000 by Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association, Fire and Life Safety Award by the American Fire Sprinkler Association, H.D Crossnine Award Recipient from Southeastern Fire Chiefs Association. [Our heartiest congratulations to our colleague Dwayne.](#)

### **VISION 20/20 FIRE PREVENTION NOV. SEMINAR**

The course provided an understanding of research, evaluation and data collection methods necessary to support fire prevention programs and the disciplines of code enforcement. The course will be handed off to all State Fire Service Training Directors in the near future.



## Firefighters Face Increased Risk for Certain Cancers

Research for this article was supported in part by a grant from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation

Cincinnati—University of Cincinnati (UC) environmental health researchers have determined that firefighters are significantly more likely to develop four different types of cancer than workers in other fields. Their findings suggest that the protective equipment firefighters have used in the past didn't do a good job in protecting them against cancer-causing agents they encounter in their profession, the researchers say.

Firefighters are twice as likely to develop testicular cancer and have significantly higher rates of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and prostate cancer than non-firefighters. The researchers also confirmed previous findings that firefighters are at greater risk for multiple myeloma.

Grace LeMasters, PhD, Ash Genaidy, PhD, and James Lockey, MD, report these findings in the November edition of the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. The UC-led research is the largest comprehensive study to date investigating cancer risk associated with working as a firefighter. "We believe there's a direct correlation between the chemical exposures firefighters experience on the job and their increased risk for cancer," says LeMasters, professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at UC. Firefighters are exposed to many compounds designated as carcinogens by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)—including benzene, diesel engine exhaust, chloroform, soot, styrene and formaldehyde, LeMasters explains. These substances can be inhaled or absorbed through the skin and occur both at the scene of a fire and in the firehouse, where idling diesel fire trucks produce diesel exhaust. "Firefighters work in an inherently dangerous occupation on a daily basis," LeMasters adds. "As public servants, they need—and deserve—additional protective measures that will ensure they aren't at an increased cancer risk."

The UC-led team analyzed information on 110,000 firefighters, most of them full-time, white male workers, from 32 previously published scientific studies to determine the comprehensive health effects and correlating cancer risks of their profession.

Risk for 20 different cancers was classified into three categories—probable, possible or not likely—patterned after the IARC's risk-assessment model.

UC epidemiologists found that half the studied cancers—including testicular, prostate, skin, brain, rectum, stomach and colon cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, multiple myeloma and malignant melanoma—were associated with firefighting to varying levels of increased risk.

"There's a critical and immediate need for additional protec-

tive equipment to help firefighters avoid inhalation and skin exposures to known and suspected occupational carcinogens," says Lockey, professor of environmental health and pulmonary medicine at UC. "In addition, firefighters should meticulously wash their entire body to remove soot and other residues from fires to avoid skin exposure."

Notice: Organizations or individuals invited to bid on 2011-2012 GAFC mutual-aid projects have until 12-09-11 at 5:00 pm to submit proposals.  
(particulars on web: [www.gafc.org](http://www.gafc.org).)

### Residential Sprinkler Inspector Training Program (Train-the-Trainer Seminar for Inspectors) GPSTC Forsyth, December 20, 2011

**FREE**

#### **Seminar Description:**

Model building codes now require fire sprinkler systems in all new residential occupancies, including townhouses and one- and two-family dwellings. This requirement responds to mounting evidence demonstrating that fires in new homes are far more dangerous than in years past. Large, open floor plans, lightweight engineered structural materials, nearly airtight construction and synthetic furnishings all contribute to highly aggressive fire environments.

As more and more homes are built with residential fire sprinkler systems, there will be an increasing need for qualified inspectors to ensure that these systems are properly installed. This seminar has been designed to help fill that demand by training building, fire, plumbing, mechanical and combination inspectors in the essential aspects of residential fire sprinkler systems. Among the topics covered are the unique aspects of residential systems versus commercial systems; spacing and location of fire sprinklers; installation and sizing requirements for piping; and inspection pointers. The program is based on requirements in NFPA Standard 13D and Chapter 29 of the International Residential Code.

The seminar is designed as a train-the-trainer program for individuals interested in instructing others; however, it is open to anyone interested in learning about the topic. After completion of the course, individuals interested in instructing others will be given access to an electronic copy of the PowerPoint program, student handout, instructor's manual, quiz, and program evaluation form.

#### **Presenter Bio:**

Julius Ballanco, P.E. is President of JB Engineering and Code Consulting, based in Munster, Indiana. Mr. Ballanco, a past-president of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers, holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree from Stevens Institute of Technology, and he is a Registered Professional Engineer and a Licensed Master Plumber. Mr. Ballanco is an accomplished instructor, having presented more than 1,000 seminars during his career of more than 30 years, and he is a monthly columnist for both Plumbing & Mechanical and PM Engineer magazines.

**FREE** Sign up. Send Name, Phone # Department/ Company and e-mail address to: [dtaylor@sfm.ga.gov](mailto:dtaylor@sfm.ga.gov) by Dec 16th. Or, fax info. to (770) 344 4847.