

76<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS  
JULY 8-10, 2004  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

RESOLUTION 2004-1

WHEREAS, the city of Jackson Fire Department has served as the host for the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference; and

WHEREAS, the membership in attendance has enjoyed the hospitality, accommodations and programs; and

WHEREAS, this has been a successful and rewarding conference;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the members of the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs extend their appreciation and thanks to those involved in making this a rewarding and memorable experience.

RESOLUTION 2004-2

WHEREAS, Chief Nathaniel Thompson has served the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs faithfully and well as State Vice President from the State of North Carolina; and,

WHEREAS, his continued devotion and service have been noteworthy and of great benefit to the fire and rescue services of this nation, the state of North Carolina, and especially the southeastern region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs gratefully extends their appreciation to Chief Thompson for his efforts, commends him for a job well done, and wishes him the best in the years to come.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-3

WHEREAS, Chief Jackie Gibbs has served the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs faithfully and well as State Vice President from the State of Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, his continued devotion and service have been noteworthy and of great benefit to the fire and rescue services of this nation, the state of Georgia, and especially the southeastern region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs gratefully extends their appreciation to Chief Gibbs for his efforts, commends him for a job well done, and wishes him the best in the years to come.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-4

WHEREAS, Chief Tom Lariviere has served the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs faithfully and well as State Vice President from the State of Mississippi; and,

WHEREAS, his continued devotion and service have been noteworthy and of great benefit to the fire and rescue services of this nation, the state of Mississippi, and especially the southeastern region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs gratefully extends their appreciation to Chief Lariviere for his efforts, commends him for a job well done, and wishes him the best in the years to come.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-5

WHEREAS, the President of the United States encourages and rewards volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, the majority of properties in the United States are protected by volunteer fire and rescue services; and

WHEREAS, the concept of volunteering has made America what it is today;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SEAFRC encourages and endorses career firefighters volunteering in their communities, keeping with the desire to improve overall fire protection services by wise use of all available resources. It should be noted that an individual's time away from their primary income source is rightfully their time and no person or organization should attempt to prevent an individual from volunteering their time in support of their community.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-6

WHEREAS, the act of volunteering has long been both a mainstay and necessity of life in America; and

WHEREAS, volunteer firefighters protect a large majority of American communities and without those services, untold dollars from fire loss and loss of life would be realized; and

WHEREAS, there is an increasing difficulty in recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SE AFC encourages the IAFC Board to develop and lobby for a legislative action bill that would provide for federal income tax exemption of all volunteer firefighters in America.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-7

WHEREAS, most fire departments in the United States provide some level of emergency care; and

WHEREAS, the importance of maintaining accurate records and reports is fundamental in providing quality emergency care;

THRERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SE AFC encourages the promotion and adoption of a nationally accepted EMS Incident Report.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-8

WHEREAS, the importance of maintaining accurate records and reports is fundamental in providing quality fire protection; and

WHEREAS, these uniform records are critical to providing the public with an accurate account of fire department operations; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Incident Reporting System is both available and widely used;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the SE AFC supports and encourages all fire departments to utilize the NFIRS system.

## RESOLUTION 2004-9

WHEREAS, the Georgia Fire Service has exhibited leadership in the establishment of master plans to strengthen the statewide emergency response effort,  
and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Fire Service has obtained resolutions and letters of support from local, county, state, and congressional elected and appointed officials who are considered to be stakeholders in protecting the public from natural and man-made disasters,  
and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Fire Service is now defined as a coalition of the following groups: The Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs, The Georgia State Firefighters Association, The Georgia Mutual Aid Group, the Georgia Fire and Emergency Service Joint Council, the Georgia Fire Investigators Association, the Georgia Fire Inspectors Association, the Georgia Public Safety Educators Association, the Georgia Rural Fire Defense Council, the Georgia Forestry Commission, the Georgia Public Safety Training Center, the Georgia Fire Academy, the Georgia State Fire Marshal's Office and the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council,  
and

WHEREAS, long range strategic planning by the Georgia Fire Service in concert with other emergency responders will lead to program goals and implementation strategies resulting in increased public confidence,  
and

WHEREAS, a prime objective of the Georgia Fire Service is to vastly improve communications between all levels of government within the state and with special attention to emergency response mutual aid agreements,  
and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government, through its Office of Domestic Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U. S. Fire Administration, U.S. Justice Department, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services have, either directly supported the new planning and program development effort, or have indicated a willingness to do so,  
and

WHEREAS: A series of project charters addressing critical needs in the areas of Technology Improvement, Training Coordination, Readiness and Disaster Response, and Research and Development have been completed and approved;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the members of the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs commend the Georgia Fire Service for their efforts and do hereby proclaim their support for this long range improvement program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director of the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs and the Georgia State Firefighters Association.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-10

WHEREAS, as the message of the fire service is one that needs to be communicated nation wide,  
and

WHEREAS, the fire service is the first line of defense when disaster strikes, and

WHEREAS, most fire departments do not have a focused public relations program, and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the SE AFC that an informed public better supports the mission of  
the fire service

BE IT RESOLVED, that the SE AFC strongly encourages the IAFC to identify and fund a  
national level spokesperson to advocate and further the causes of the fire service nationwide.

#### RESOLUTION 2004-11

WHEREAS, Ragan Vandegriff serves as the Chaplain of the SE AFC and

WHEREAS, in October of 2004 Chaplain Vandegriff will lead a group of fire service  
professionals on a mission to interact with firefighters in the country of Belgium, and

WHEREAS, this mission will bring about improved relations and goodwill between the United  
States and Belgium,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Chaplain Ragan Vandegriff serve as an official  
Ambassador of the SE AFC.