



The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa » Savannah, Georgia

Leadership Conference Agenda

JUNE 1, 2026, MONDAY

9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Exhibitor Move In	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	SEAFc Board Meeting	Greene Boardroom
2:00–3 p.m.	GAFC Board Meeting	Pulaski Boardroom
After Hours Opportunity (on your own)		Stafford's Public House 306 W Upper Factors Walk, Savannah

JUNE 2, 2026, TUESDAY

8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Registration	
8:00–10:00 a.m.	Exhibitor Move-in	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
10:00 a.m.	Exhibit Hall Opens	Convention Center Exhibit Hall

OPENING CEREMONY

9:00–10:15 a.m.	<p>Opening Ceremony <i>Welcome to the Conference</i> <i>Call to Order</i> <i>Posting of the State Flags</i> <i>Posting of the Colors</i> <i>National Anthem</i> <i>Invocation</i> <i>Introduction of Special Guests</i> <i>Introduce the 2026-2027 SEAFc Board of Directors</i> <i>Thank you to the 2026 Conference Committee</i></p> <p>Memorial Service <i>Opening Prayer</i> <i>Firefighter's Prayer</i> <i>Presentation of Helmets by State Directors</i> Alabama State Director, Chief Joseph (Joey) Darby Florida State Director, Chief Ryan Crawford Georgia State Director, Chief Brian Marcos Kentucky State Director, Chief Stephen "Steve" Kyle Mississippi State Director, Chief Charles D. Yarbrough North Carolina State Director, Chief Brian Causey South Carolina State Director, Chief Justin McLellan Tennessee State Director, Chief Brian Biggs Virginia State Director, Chief Matt Fox West Virginia State Director, Chief Phil Hart Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs Executive Board <i>Read "Tradition of Tolling of the Bell"</i> <i>Reading of the Names & LODD</i> <i>Tolling of the Bell</i> <i>Taps</i> <i>Benediction</i> <i>Bag Pipes</i></p>	<p>Chatham Ballroom <i>President Jay Cullinan</i> <i>President Jay Cullinan</i> <i>Savannah Fire Department Honor Guard</i> <i>Savannah Fire Department Honor Guard</i> Mark Ware <i>Savannah Fire Department Chaplain Chris Menzies</i> <i>President Jay Cullinan</i> <i>President Jay Cullinan</i> <i>President Jay Cullinan</i></p> <p>Chatham Ballroom <i>Savannah Fire Department Chaplain Chris Menzies</i> <i>SEAFc Chaplain, Mississippi State Director, Charles Yarbrough</i> <i>Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs Chaplain Roosevelt Johns</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Chuck Bohannon</p>
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SEAFC

JUNE
1-5

2026

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10:15–10:45 a.m.	Break	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
10:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Unstoppable Leadership <i>Alden Mills</i>	Chatham Ballroom
12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
1:00–2:15 p.m.	Why Would Anyone Be Led By You? <i>Chief Keith Hopkins</i>	Chatham Ballroom
2:15–2:45 p.m.	Break	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
2:45–4:00 p.m.	Stepping Off The Side Lines - Leading From The Front <i>Chief Allen Baldwin</i>	Chatham Ballroom
4:00–4:30 p.m.	Sourcewell Update	Chatham Ballroom
4:30–5:30 p.m.	SEAFC and GAFC Business Meetings	Chatham Ballroom
6:00–10:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception featuring Mark Ware <i>Buses begin at 5:50 p.m.</i>	Starland Yard
After Hours Opportunity (on your own)		Honky Tonk 311 W Congress St., Savannah

JUNE 3, 2026, WEDNESDAY

8:30–9:45 a.m.	The Unintended Consequences: Turning Flawed Performance Evals into Career Roadmaps <i>Brian Marcos</i>	Chatham Ballroom
9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	Exhibit hall open	
9:45–10:15 a.m.	Break	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
10:15–11:30 a.m.	The Firehouse Nobody Wants to Leave: Leadership That Fuels Recruitment & Retention <i>Dr. Jeff Spooneybarger</i>	Chatham Ballroom
11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Lunch	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
1:00–2:15 p.m.	Difficult Conversations <i>Ryan Kunitzer</i>	Chatham Ballroom
2:15–2:45 p.m.	Break	Convention Center Exhibit Hall
2:45–4:00 p.m.	Are You Preparing Your Firefighters to Be Successful Company Officers? The Research Data Will Fool You <i>Mark Nugent</i>	Chatham Ballroom
4:00 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Closes	
4:00–5:00 p.m.	GAFC Business Meeting	Pulaski Boardroom
Free evening to network with exhibitors and colleagues.		
After Hours Opportunity (on your own)		The Rail Pub 405 W Congress St #2410, Savannah

JUNE 4, 2026, THURSDAY

8:00–10 a.m.	Registration	
8:00–9:15 a.m.	BC Eddy LODD/Reefer Container Awareness Part 1 <i>Chief Rodney Wiggins</i>	Chatham Ballroom
9:15–9:30 a.m.	Break	International Gallery
9:30–10:45 a.m.	BC Eddy LODD/Reefer Container Awareness Part 2 <i>Chief Rodney Wiggins</i>	Chatham Ballroom
10:45–11:15 a.m.	NFPA Update <i>Ieremv Criner</i>	Lobby



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11:15–11:45 a.m.	Lunch Buffet	
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.	President Forum	The Westin Savannah Harbor—Champions Grill
11:45–12:45 p.m.	Leadership Lessons Learned on the Line <i>Denis O’Neal</i>	Chatham Ballroom
12:45–1:45 pm	Next-Gen Leadership: Integrating AI While Protecting the Culture That Built Us <i>Kevin Henson</i>	Chatham Ballroom
1:45–2:00 p.m.	Break	Chatham Ballroom
2:00–3:00 p.m.	Flashpoints - A Firehouse Law Update <i>John Rukavina</i>	Chatham Ballroom
3:00–3:15 p.m.	Break	Chatham Ballroom
3:15–4:15 p.m.	Emotional Intelligence: The Why Behind What We Do <i>Nathan Mulvey</i>	
5:30–6:45 p.m.	Reception	The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa
6:45 p.m.	Presidents Dinner and Awards	The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa
After Hours Opportunity (on your own)		Savannah Smiles Dueling Piano Bar 314 Williamson St., Savannah

JUNE 5, 2026, FRIDAY

8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	SEAFc Board Meeting	The Westin Savannah Harbor—Champions Grill
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