

2018-2019



Massachusetts Call/Volunteer Firefighters Association

Membership Renewal Pack



www.mcvfa.org

Massachusetts Call/Volunteer Firefighters Association, PO Box 1015, East Wareham, MA 02538



Mission Statement



It shall be the purpose of the Massachusetts Call/Volunteer Firefighters' Association to do any and all acts and deeds designed to promote the ideals and goals of the Call/Volunteer Firefighters of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Furthermore, it is the intent of this organization to represent the interests of the member Cities, Towns, Districts, Fire Companies or Associations at the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth and to act as liaison between the Call and Volunteer Firefighters of the Commonwealth and interact with the various state agencies whose function is the preservation of lives and property; and to do any and all acts and things designed to better serve and protect the lives and property of the residence of this Commonwealth thus fostering good will from the community at large while engendering fellowship among members of the fire service. The primary objective of this organization is to promote the Welfare of Call and Volunteer Fire Companies and their members by rendering assistance of every type and nature whenever possible.

History & Purpose

On February 26, 1990 a group of 40 Call/Volunteer Firefighters representing 14 Southeastern Massachusetts fire departments met in Carver to discuss the concept of starting a statewide Call/Volunteer firefighters Association. This meeting was organized by the Carver Firefighters Association and the Carver Fire Chief, Dana Harriman.

The meeting produced some lively and colorful discussions but one base theme kept coming to the forefront: The Call/Volunteers in this state were headed in the wrong direction. In late 1987 Call/Volunteer Firefighters were excluded from previously enjoyed death and disability benefits under the state retirement law. In 1989 Call/Volunteers were excluded from being members of district Haz-Mat teams in conjunction with the state funded Haz-Mat vehicles.

It became apparent from this meeting that the Call/Volunteers lacked organization and adequate representation in matters concerning them or county and state levels. It was unanimously voted to set up a Steering Committee to report back to the group on April 23, 1990 with recommendations. On April 23, 1990 the Steering Committee Report was presented and unanimously accepted with a couple of minor modifications.

On April 30, 1990 this group met again and decided to do a mailing to survey the cities and towns across the state in an effort to solicit representation that would make this a true, Massachusetts Call/Volunteer Firefighters Association.

The Steering Committee met many times that spring and summer, and the surveys came rolling in.

After much preparation, our first State Meeting was held in West Boylston October 14, 1990. This meeting formalized a working set

of bylaws and the basic constitution for this organization. From the original 14 departments we have grown to approximately 5,000 members representing 200 fire departments.

One of the most important goals was not to widen any existing gaps between Call/Volunteers and Career Firefighters. We have slowly but surely become a force within the fire service of this Commonwealth. We have accomplished the following:

- Introduced legislative bills for our members' benefit.
- Publish a quarterly magazine called "SMOKE SHOWIN'."
- Done a basic training survey for our members.
- We are the recognized state association with voting rights to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) which represents approximately 800,000 thousand volunteer firefighters nationwide.
- Have sent members to state and national seminars and meetings with regard to the volunteer problems.

It has not been an easy task. For many years the Call/Volunteer was a fact of life. When the town fathers were in a bind at two in the morning, ring the bells, call on the old red telephone network, blow the horns, trip the pagers and when the emergency was over give them an "atta boy" and next week cut their dwindling budget.

One of our major goals is to sit down with the chiefs' association management, the union firefighters management and some of our management and work on the approximately 85% of the problems that plague the Massachusetts Fire Service that are common ground to all three groups.

MCVFA Member Benefits



The MCVFA is always working on a statewide level to improve legislation, funding, safety and training. We are the voice of the call/volunteer fire and EMS services in the Commonwealth.

Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance – All members have a \$14,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment group policy through Provident Insurance Agency and American Income Life Insurance Co.

Liberty Mutual Insurance – All MCVFA members can enjoy exclusive savings on their auto and home insurance through Liberty Mutual Insurance.

Anna Maria College Online Program – The MCVFA and Anna Maria College have partnered together to offer MCVFA members a great opportunity to help them reach their professional and educational goals through a cost effective and flexible online option to earn regionally accredited and truly competitive career advancement degree programs.

Scholarships – The Robert J. Hindley Memorial Scholarship is awarded yearly to five (5) deserving candidates who fit the program's criteria to pursue higher education.

Subscription to Smoke Showin' Magazine – *Smoke Showin'* conveys topical and educational information to the Call/Volunteer emergency services throughout the Commonwealth. The publication features articles and columns related to the emergency services as well as training, educational opportunities, legislation and regional areas.

Training and Education – The MCVFA provides training and education programs around the state on a variety of topics. The purpose is to reduce the number of injuries and deaths of fire and EMS responders by providing training in safety and other fire and EMS related topics. This training takes place via seminars and programs covering a wide range of fields. The MCVFA also has a Bullex Fire Extinguisher Training simulator available for member departments' use.

Health & Wellness – Teaches first responders the importance of health and wellness and motivates them to start a department wide health and fitness program.

Recruitment and Retention Assistance – The MCVFA strives to create projects and activities that will assist member departments within the Commonwealth by providing advertising and other programs to increase the ranks of the Massachusetts volunteer fire and EMS services.

General Welfare – The MCVFA assists with financial and other means of support for members in need when possible. Such as our Heating Assistance Program which provides emergency assistance to provide home heating to members during a financial crisis.

Legislative Advocacy – The MCVFA generates and pursues a legislative program to support its membership and make the voice of the call and volunteer fire and EMS services heard in all levels of government. The MCVFA works with legislative representatives and endeavors to secure passage of legislation in the interest of the call/volunteer emergency services in the Commonwealth. The MCVFA has added the Engage application to its website. Engage is designed as a service for you as an easy to use tool for contacting your elected officials. It is an online advocacy program that allows its users to send advocacy messages to legislators on recent legislation either proposed or being debated at the state and national levels. Since we have instituted Engage, the MCVFA has been able to get several pieces of legislation passed including representation on both the Fire Training Council and Fire Services Commission.

Fire Service Representation – The MCVFA is the representative of the call and volunteer fire and EMS services to the Commonwealth's political and regulatory agencies including the Governor, State Legislators, Department of Fire Services, Department of Public Health, Fire Training Council, Fire Services Commission, etc.

Duties & Responsibilities of Delegates & Alternates

In addition to the specific duties and responsibilities which are required by the bylaws each Delegate/Alternate should:

- A.** Serve and function on MCVFA committees when requested to do so.
- B.** Attend, to the greatest extent possible, all meetings and take an active part in the deliberations and actions of the MCVFA.
- C.** Act as the liaison from the Member Fire Company to the MCVFA and back to the Member Fire Company.
- D.** Report on MCVFA's activities and business whenever and where ever such reports are requested or necessary.
- E.** Promote program which are in the best interests of the MCVFA and communicate all information of mutual interest.
- F.** Act as the agent of the MCVFA and the sponsoring fire company to further the growth of the association with respect to increase membership.
- G.** Act in a professional manner to enhance the image of the MCVFA.
- H.** Strive to improve the proficiency and the image of the Call/Volunteer Fire Service and to support programs and activities which will tend to reduce loss of life and property and improve the quality of the fire service.
- I.** Support the bylaws of the MCVFA.
- J.** Provide information to the Chaplain or member of the Health and Welfare Committee regarding members who are having difficulty.
- K.** Provide input for SMOKE SHOWIN' regarding upcoming events your department or area is scheduling.
- L.** Acts as liaison to local newspaper and cable companies to air public.

Membership Affiliations

B-1. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP - Any call/volunteer firefighter or emergency service personnel as described in Section A above may be accepted into membership of this Association after approval of the Executive Board.

B-2. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP - Any Friend of the Fire or Emergency Service, the criteria for acceptance shall be established by the Executive Board, but specifically with no voting power.

B-3. CHIEF OFFICER/DIRECTOR – A Chief Officer or Director including Deputy, Assistant, etc. who serve in a volunteer, call, or combination company who otherwise does not meet the qualifications of a B-1 or B-4 membership.

B-4. FULL TIME FIREFIGHTER/EMERGENCY SERVICE PERSONNEL MEMBERSHIP - Any full time firefighter or Emergency Service personnel, who also serves as a Call/Volunteer Firefighter or Emergency Service Personnel in a Fire or Emergency Service Company or Association affiliated with this organization.

B-5. CHARTER MEMBERSHIP - Any Active Members of the MCVFA as of July 1, 1991.

B-6. LIFE MEMBERSHIP - Members who, because of age or other circumstances and service to the MCVFA have earned the right of Life Membership. Life member, due to their merit and service to the MCVFA shall be recommended to the Executive Board of the MCVFA

B-7. RETIRED MEMBERSHIP - Any retired individual as described in Section A above may be accepted into membership of this Association after the approval of the Executive Board.

Any Retired individual as described in Section A above, and is either:

A. Not Represented by a Member Company - A retiree who has been a member in good standing of this organization for a minimum of 10 years is eligible for reinstatement into membership of the Association, after nomination by the retiree's Regional Vice President and the approval of the Executive Board. Such members will be unaffiliated members at large and, as such, do not have voting privileges but may hold elected office.

B. Represented by a Member Company - Any Member Company who has members that have retired from active service may carry said retirees on the Company roster as a B-7 retired member.

B-8. EXPLORER/JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP - Any Explorer or Junior firefighter program sponsored by a fire company or association. Any B-8 member shall have no voting power.

B-9. Military Membership - An individual who is on active military duty with a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces including the Coast Guard, shall have their dues waived while on active duty status.



2018-2019

Annual Membership Dues Form

(Please return this form with your current dues payment and updated roster)

Date Completed: _____

- \$20.00** per member for B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, and B-5 _____ # of Members
- \$10.00** per member for B-7 _____ # of Members
- \$5.00** per member for B-8 with a **\$50.00 cap** _____ # of Members
- \$0.00** per member for B-9 _____ # of Members

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ for MCVFA Membership

Types of MCVFA Memberships

- B-1 Active
- B-2 Associate
- B-3 Chief Officer/Director
- B-4 FT Firefighter/EMT
- B-5 Charter
- B-7 Retired
- B-8 Junior Firefighter/Explorer
- B-9 Military

Payments should be received by the MCVFA as soon as possible after Dues Notification.

This dues form and dues payment (check or money order) should be mailed to:

MCVFA, PO Box 1015, East Wareham, MA 02538

MCVFA Roster should be completed using the Excel file and emailed to: dues@mcvfa.org

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION (if applicable) Region: _____

Department Name: _____

Department Website: _____

DELEGATE Type of MCVFA Membership B _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

ALTERNATE Type of MCVFA Membership B _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

INDIVIDUAL/MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Type of MCVFA Membership B _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate below if dues notice or other correspondence be sent to an additional individual:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



www.mcvfa.org

Massachusetts Call/Volunteer Firefighters' Association

Call/Volunteers Serving Today to Protect Your Tomorrow

2018-2019 Invoice

Send check to:

Date: _____

MCVFA Membership Committee
PO Box 1015
East Wareham, MA 02538

Department Name and Address

Please Make Check Payable to:

Massachusetts Call Volunteer Firefighters' Association

2018-2019 MCVFA Annual Dues

_____ **B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, and B-5 Members @ \$20.00**

_____ **B-7 Members @ \$10.00**

_____ **B-8 Members @ \$5.00**

TOTAL \$ _____



MCVFA MERCHANDISE

Now Available Online

Visit the **MCVFA store** at <https://store.mcvfa.org> to purchase MCVFA merchandise t-shirts, sweatshirts, golf shirts, mugs, pint glasses, window stickers, patches and more.

Details on items listed below can be found online.



Blue T-Shirt
\$13.00



Grey T-Shirt
\$13.00



Pink T-Shirt
\$15.00



Navy Blue Sweatshirt
\$20.00



**Men's Navy Blue
Golf Shirt**
\$25.00



**Women's Navy Blue
Golf Shirt**
\$25.00



**MCVFA Window
Sticker**
\$2.00



MCVFA Patch
\$5.00



MCVFA Lapel Pin
\$5.00



**MCVFA Helmet
Bank**
\$10.00



**MCVFA Fire Alarm
Bank**
\$10.00



**MCVFA 16oz.
Coffee Mug**
\$8.00



MCVFA Portfolio
\$5.00



**25th Anniversary
Pint Glass**
\$10.00