



Maryland Fire Chiefs Association

Safety and Health Committee

Minutes of meeting held October 23, 2023

The Safety and Health Committee of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association held a meeting on October 23, 2023, at 1900 hours, via Zoom. Members of the committee present were:

David Lewis, Chairman
Dick Devore
Joe Chornock
Rhonda Cohen
Pete Mellits
Dave Reid

The committee discussed possible content for the next issue (January 1) of Back Step Talks. This issue will feature NFFF Life Safety Initiatives # 7 (Research) and #8 (Technology). Specific topics for articles should discuss what we have learned from research and technology that have changed (and will change) the way we operate in the emergency services?

Dave Reid will write the lead article discussing the intent of LSI #7 and 8.

Steve Maloney (unable to attend due to a schedule conflict) proposed the following two topics:

- What can we learn from after action reviews/post incident analysis to change the way we operate? - Pete Mellits offered to write on this one.
- Discuss lessons learned from CO emergencies and the benefits of carrying CO monitors on all EMS bags – Steve Maloney will write this one.

Dave Lewis offered to write two articles:

- General article to accompany Dave Reid's article to discuss how research and technology have made changes to how we operate in the emergency services.
- Recap of the discussions held at Life Safety Summit in San Antonio, September 2022

Preview LSI#7 at <https://www.everyonegoeshome.com/16-initiatives/7-research-agenda/>

Preview LIS#8 at <https://www.everyonegoeshome.com/16-initiatives/8-technology/>

Rhonda Cohen offered to write an article focusing on the new year; what intentions/resolutions should we consider to be healthy and safe?

An article should be written on how the research and investigation of the LODD's of Nathan Flynn and Josh Laird led to legislative action in Maryland restricting the use of CSST gas lines. **WE NEED SOMEONE TO VOLUNTEER TO WRITE THIS ONE.**

It was discussed that we should include an article on the research on PFAS (the forever chemical), what we learned from the health effects of PFAS in our PPE, and the effects of a new PPE standard to be coming forward. **WE NEED SOMEONE TO VOLUNTEER TO WRITE THIS ONE.**

The schedule for this issue will be:

Draft inputs completed by December 10

Committee meeting on the draft – December 18

Publication release – January 1

The committee will meet again (via Zoom) on Monday, November 27, at 7pm. The link for the meeting is <https://umgc-edu.zoom.us/j/9191998865>

Thanks again for everyone's continued support and participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1920 hours.

Submitted by: David Lewis, Chairman