



Maryland Fire Chiefs Association

Safety and Health Committee

Minutes of meeting held September 30, 2025

The Safety and Health Committee of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association met on September 30, 2025, via Zoom.

Members of the committee present were

David Lewis, Chairman
Dick Devore
David Reid
David Black
Christopher Caisse
Pete Mellits
Heather Miller

The meeting was scheduled to review the draft of the October issue of Back Step Talks. All articles have been completed and incorporated into the draft. We were missing a few graphics to improve the presentation, and they were submitted after the meeting.

The committee also discussed the upcoming January 2026 issue of Back Step Talks. At the last MFCA Board Meeting, there was considerable discussion about firefighters and cancer. Although this topic has been discussed in several issues of Back Step Talks, the committee agreed that it would be beneficial to devote an issue to this topic.

Chairman Lewis asked each committee member to consider an article topic related to firefighters and cancer and be prepared to offer that as a suggested item at our November 3 meeting. Guest articles are also welcomed to be written by members (or their family) who have or are suffering from cancer issues. Committee members should not only offer the topic but also offer to be the author.

The following schedule was agreed upon for the January issue of Back Step Talks:

- Committee meets on Monday, November 3, to review topics to be included.
- Draft articles due by Monday, December 15
- Committee reviews draft and comments by email
- Committee meets to discuss and approve the draft on Monday, December 29
- Back Step Talks, January 2026, scheduled for release on January 1, 2026

Thanks again for everyone's continued support and participation.

Submitted by: David Lewis, Chairman