

# THE RURAL HITCH

A Quarterly Publication of the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association



## PROUDLY SERVING:

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Alexandria    | Hebron            |
| Alton         | Hill              |
| Andover       | Holderness        |
| Ashland       | Laconia           |
| Barnstead     | Meredith          |
| Belmont       | Moultonborough    |
| Bridgewater   | New Hampton       |
| Bristol       | Northfield        |
| Campton       | Plymouth          |
| Center Harbor | Rumney            |
| Danbury       | Sanbornton        |
| Dorchester    | Sandwich          |
| Ellsworth     | Strafford         |
| Franklin      | Thornton          |
| Gilford       | Tilton            |
| Gilmanton     | Warren            |
| Groton        | Waterville Valley |
|               | Wentworth         |

## ICE COLD EDUCATION

Multiple Agencies take part in Annual Ice Rescue Training. (See Page 11)

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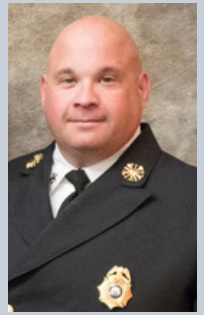
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## From the Chief...

Jonathan M. Goldman, CPE



The first quarter of 2021 was busy as usual. The LRMFA annual report was wrapped up, along with the 2021 audit. The Annual report is available on the LRMFA website, and the audit is always available by contacting me. The first quarter was busy with multiple fires, of which C1 and C2 responded to several. Late last year, our previously selected CAD vendor, decided to stop working on their CAD product and told LRMFA we would not be able to deploy the product as we had hoped. Staff created a Request for Information (RFI) and posted it. We received several responses from different CAD vendors, and are working through on-site demonstrations, features and functionality, and hopefully soon we will have a decision as to which CAD we would like to recommend to the Board of Directors.

Earlier in the quarter Lt. Kevin Nugent was accepted into the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Registered Public Safety Leadership program. The RPL program prepares students to manage and lead high performing teams. The program is a year long program done online and each student must also complete an industry specific service project. Dispatcher Kellie Regan has most recently been accepted into the program as well. Once designated as RPL's Lt. Nugent and Dispatcher Regan will join Chief Goldman, Lt. Hannafin, and less than ten other RPL's in New Hampshire. A professional designation such as this speaks to the level of commitment and dedication to the emergency communications industry someone has. Deputy Chief Steele will be applying for the program shortly. Once each have earned their RPL, LRMFA staff will be the majority of RPL's in NH.

Continued on Page 4

## The Rural Hitch

Is Curated and Published Quarterly by:  
**Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association**

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Mic Strap Above Radio Pocket

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Silicone Knee  
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**About the Stock Gear Program**

Many sizes will be in-stock and ready to ship directly to your department. If you are adding lettering to your garment or any of our allowable options, please add 2-3 weeks for delivery.

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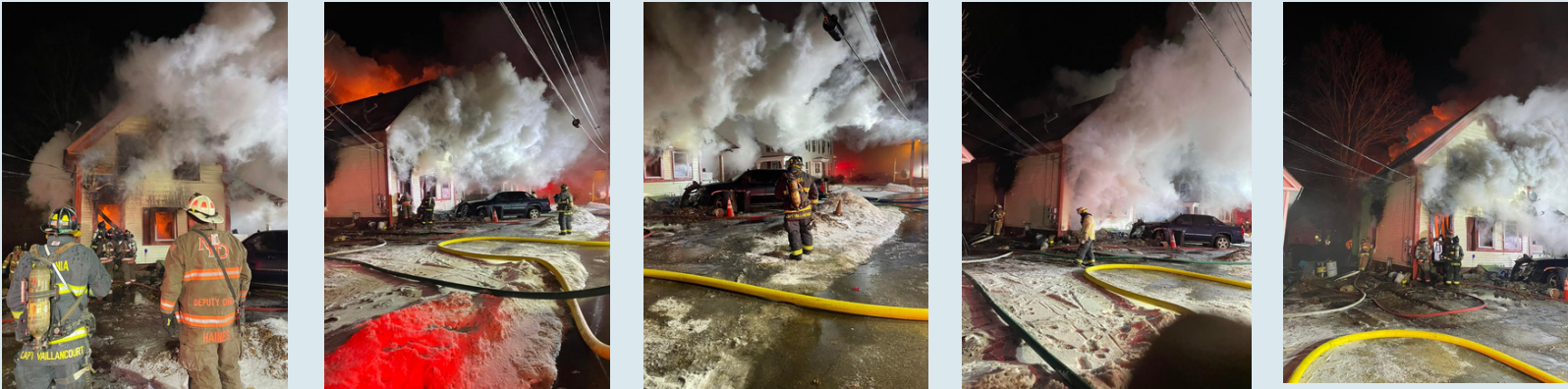
LRMFA has continued to leverage our Mutualink Connection and its functionality in incident command, most recently working with Danbury, Alexandria, Franklin, and Bristol PDs to demonstrate command post, and tactical dispatching at a training exercise they held. By creating secure connections to Franklin PD Dispatch and LRMFA we were able to stream live video of the incident back to the communications centers, as well as in real time share data, texts, and mapping of the incidents. Coincidentally later that day, Dispatcher Steele streamed live video of a building fire in Meredith to the LRMFA Communications Center. By streaming and sharing video and data, it allows the communications center to visualize the incident, and be better prepared to support the incident commander, and their objectives.

As the first quarter wraps up, LRMFA is preparing to celebrate National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, April 10-16. This is a week celebrated nationally to honor and recognize our public safety communications personnel. We will be kicking off the week by having an open house alongside NH9-1-1. Visitors will be able to tour the LRMFA Communications Center, the NH9-1-1 PSAP, and see both our vehicles and the NH9-1-1 IMV Vehicle. There will be light refreshments and give aways for the kids. This week is an opportunity for fields responders, departments, and their associations to consider sending cards or other items to the Dispatchers, but most importantly.... just remember to say thank you to them during the week.

As we roll into the second quarter of 2022, and spring begins we begin to look forward to the summer, and all that this region has to offer during the spring and summer months. It is also a great time to begin planning your departments 2022 Firefighter Safety Stand Down event. The Safety Stand Down event takes place the third full week in June of each year and is used to highlight critical safety, health, and survival issues for fire and emergency services personnel. During the week departments are asked to suspend non-emergency activities for the week and focus their attention on safety and health education efforts. More information and planning documents can be found at [www.safetystanddown.org](http://www.safetystanddown.org) 

Jon Goldman, CPE

# 4-ALARM FIRE ON BAY STREET IN LACONIA



LRMFA dispatched Laconia Fire Department to a report of a building fire at 17 Bay Street on Sunday, February 20th, 2022 at approximately 2:20 a.m. All residents were reported to be out of the building. An escalation of alarms prior to the Engine Company arrival was due to multiple callers reporting conditions and visible conditions from a distance. The fire grew and effected a home next door. 19 Area departments in total were requested to respond Mutual Aid to assist extinguishing the fire.





# CAMP FULLY INVOLVED

**"Tell me and I forget; Show me and I remember;  
Involve me and I understand...."**

Camp Fully Involved is a physically challenging, aggressive hands-on, live-in week long summer camp directed towards young women between the ages of 14 (and having completed the 8th grade) and 20 who are interested in exploring the career of a firefighter. No experience or affiliation with a fire department is required, and we encourage application from young women who do not have any affiliation with the fire service. There is no residency requirement for attendance - we encourage young women from all over the world to apply!

As a cadet in Camp Fully Involved, you will participate in numerous hands-on evolutions including, but not limited to vehicle and dumpster fires, rappelling, SCBA drills, room and content fires, Engine and Truck company operations, forcible entry, ventilation and combined operations. In addition to the technical evolutions, cadets will also participate in evening classroom programs.

**We are back!!**

**It has been a long two years without Camp Fully Involved but WE ARE BACK! CFI2022 will start on Sunday July 24th and will graduate on Friday July 29th. We cannot wait to meet YOU - the future of our fire service!!**

**Download your [CFI2022 Application HERE!](#)**

# LRMFA Lt Erin Hannafin Earns RPL Designation



The Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association is proud of Lieutenant Erin Hannafin. She has completed the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO), Registered Public Safety Leader program (RPL). Lt. Hannafin has recently received notification of successfully earning her professional designation.

Lieutenant Hannafin's Completion in this intensive year long program is significant, as it is a highly competitive program requiring a successful application process, and approval of an industry service project.

During the yearlong RPL program Lt. Hannafin learned to: manage organizations and change, communicate with confidence and clarity, develop their talent pool, learn to build consensus, enhance team performance, and make a difference in the 9-1-1 and emergency communications industry.

The first five of the six online RPL courses focus on aspects of managing and supervising that are vital to leading successful teams. The sixth course provides the opportunity for RPL candidates to put their knowledge and skills to use in a service project that benefits our industry. Lt. Hannafin's service project was working as the social media and Marketing Chair for the 2021 Atlantic Chapter of APCO Annual Conference. Lt. Hannafin, now joins the other three Registered Public Safety Leaders in New Hampshire.

Lieutenant Hannafin has worked full time for LRMFA for thirteen years. She has extensive experience in the NH Fire Service and is a ski patroller at Gunstock. Lt. Hannafin also serves as the LRMFA Recruiting Manager, and is responsible for coordinating LRMFA training, as well as oversees our QA/QI Program. Lt. Hannafin chairs the Atlantic Chapter of APCO Training Committee and is a member of the NH Emergency Dispatchers Association Board of Directors.

We want to congratulate Lt. Hannafin for all her hard work and dedication to the organization and to the 9-1-1/Emergency Communications industry.

**OPEN HOUSE**  
NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY  
TELECOMMUNICATOR WEEK CELEBRATION

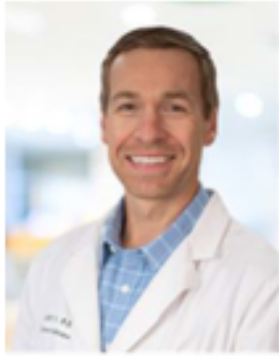
Learn how your Fire and EMS Emergency Services are dispatched. Meet YOUR Dispatchers, and learn about the vital life saving work they perform each day.

Visit with NH 911 and see how it works!

**Saturday, April 9, 2022**  
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

62 Communications Drive  
Laconia, NH 03246





# Dr. Rix's EMS Pearl



## March 29, 2022 - Chest pain in the Pediatric Patient:

In light of our upcoming EMS Grand Rounds series on case-based pediatric emergencies (April 13th at NH Fire Academy) combined with several ED cases I've seen recently, I thought I'd do a little review/education on pediatric chest pain. It's actually one of the more common medical reasons for EMS transport in children, representing almost 14% of calls in one study. I also find the chief complaint to be one of significant angst for parents with most assuming that because the child has chest pain, the problem lies with the heart. Luckily, cardiac etiologies for pediatric chest pain are rare and there are some key red flag historical and physical exam findings which can help sort out the truly dangerous from the relatively benign causes.

When it comes down to it, only 0.6% of pediatric chest pain visits to the ED are because of a cardiac cause. And if that's all you want to take from this pearl, that would be reasonable, seeyalatabye. Leading the way as to the actual cause of the chest pain, musculoskeletal/non-specific is the most common at 56%, then respiratory at 12%, infectious causes at 8%, GI discomfort that is referred to the chest at 6%, and sickle cell pain at 4%.

As we all know, our job in emergency medicine, both pre-hospital and in the ED, is to always think the worst first, so to poo-poo a parental concern of chest pain in their kid with "duh, don't you know it's musculoskeletal/non-specific 56% of the time??" is not great practice, despite the odds that you'd be right.

The nice thing about dangerous causes of chest pain in kids is there is almost always either a high risk historical component or a high risk physical exam finding that should be a red flag that you're dealing with something more sinister. Let's briefly discuss some of the more common less common causes of pediatric chest pain:

**-Peri/Myocarditis:** Represents about 25% of all of the cardiac etiologies of pedi chest pain. Usually this is a post-infectious (most often viral) inflammation of the sac around



the heart and sometimes the deeper myocardium as well. Classically presents as a pain that is much more severe when lying flat (as the inflamed pericardium becomes in contact with the posterior structures in the chest), and better when leaning forward (as the inflamed sac is now kind of dangling free of contact). One study showed that 100% of these cases had EKG abnormalities, most often sinus tach, but also diffuse ST elevation is the classic finding. Luckily, most cases of peri/myocarditis have a benign course, but sometimes can be complicated by pericardial effusions, arrhythmias, or signs of heart failure.

**-Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM):** Leading cause of sudden death in children. In the US, estimated prevalence is around 1 in 3,000 young adults however only 0.6% of these people will have sudden death. We do know that 36% of sudden cardiac death in athletes less than 30 y/o were from HCM though. Classically it's going to present with chest pain or SOB upon exertion or exertional syncope. Those are two key questions that always must be asked.

**-Aortic Dissection:** Occurs when there is a tear in one of the 3 layers of the aorta and blood dissects into the wall of the vessel. Luckily, rare in kids. Less than 1-3% of an already rare disease process occurs in <21 y/o. These patients should look ill and classically have pain that migrates (chest, back, neck, belly, legs) as the dissection propagates. Historically associated with Marfan's syndrome (tall, lanky, long fingers, hyper flexibility)

**Arrhythmias:** A complicated group of disorders which can be inherited or because of spontaneous mutations. Includes Long QT syndrome, WPW, Brugada syndrome, Arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia, and Catecholaminergic polymorphic Vtach. Most of these cases will present with associated palpitations, syncope, new onset seizures (why you should ALWAYS check an EKG on a seizure patient unless the diagnosis of seizures is very well established).

**Anomalous Aortic Origin of a Coronary Artery:** This is an increasingly recognized disorder where the coronary arteries arise from the wrong location on the aorta and can get compressed during exertion leading to ischemia. Most of these cases will present with ischemic sounding chest pain (radiation of pain with nausea, diaphoresis, etc.) and will have ischemic findings on EKG (ST elevation or depression with reciprocal changes).

**Pulmonary embolism:** Uncommon in kids without a previous history of blood clots, cancer, history of clotting disorder or a strong family history of DVT/PE, or supplemental hormone use (estrogen birth control is the red flag here). Many of these cases present with more respiratory than pain symptoms.





**Spontaneous Pneumothorax:** Caused by spontaneous non-traumatic rupture of the lung alveoli, classically in the thin male patient. Usually presents with sudden onset chest pain, respiratory symptoms, +/- hypoxemia, +/- asymmetric breath sounds.

There are obviously other dangerous causes of pedi chest pain out there, but this is going to account for the vast majority of dangerous/can't miss diagnoses.

Bringing it home, other than your standard chest pain questions (onset, radiation, nausea, etc.), in the pediatric patient you should always specifically ask about a history of exertional CP or exertional syncope (HCM), a family history of sudden cardiac death in younger individuals (<50 y/o) or whether there was any associated palpitations or seizure activity (Arrhythmias), or recent infections/fevers (pericarditis). These questions combined with an EKG and a reliable set of vitals are going to capture the above dangerous causes of chest pain the vast majority of the time and as a result, our kids will be just a little bit safer.

Thanks for reading,

Rob  
[rrix@crhc.org](mailto:rrix@crhc.org)





On March 11, 2022 members of the fire service paused to remember Firefighter Mark Miller and the Laconia Fire Department. Mark's legacy is still a big part of the LFD history and lore and will always continue to be. Mark loved being a firefighter, and it showed in everything he did, both on duty and off. Although Mark is remembered every day, today we take a little extra time to remember the man he was, and how he always strived to make the fire service, and those around him better.



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# ICE RESCUE TRAINING

The Towns of Center Harbor, Holderness, Plymouth, Ashland, Meredith, Moultonborough, Sandwich, and NH Fish Game attended an Ice Rescue Training in the town of Center Harbor.

A special thanks to our outside instructors Ben Thibault and Ben Selleck.





  
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## Lieutenant Kevin Nugent Selected for APCO Registered Public Safety Leader Program

The Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association is proud to announce that Lieutenant Kevin Nugent has been selected for the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO), Registered Public Safety Leader program (RPL).

Lieutenant Nugent’s selection in this intensive year long program is significant, as it is a highly competitive program requiring a successful application process, and approval of an industry service project.

During the year long RPL program students will learn to: manage organizations and change, communicate with confidence and clarity, develop their talent pool, learn to build consensus, enhance team performance, and make a difference in the 9-1-1 and emergency communications industry.



The first five of the six online RPL courses focus on aspects of managing and supervising that are vital to leading successful teams. The sixth course provides the opportunity for RPL candidates to put their knowledge and skills to use in a service project that benefits our industry.

Upon Lt. Nugent’s successful completion of the program, he will join the other four Registered Public Safety Leaders in New Hampshire. Lieutenant Erin Hannafin has recently completed the program and received her official designation this past year.

Lieutenant Nugent has worked for LRMFA for almost eighteen years, and previously was a Telecommunications Specialist at NH9-1-1. Lt. Nugent has also served on the Gilmanton Fire Department and was the Chief of the Winnisquam Fire Department. We want to congratulate Lt. Nugent, and wish him well as he begins this program!





# New Hampton Public Safety Day JUNE 4TH, 2022

*Please join us for a walk through if the  
Public Safety Building, Public Safety  
Day on JUNE 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.*

- *Burgers & Hot Dogs*
- *Vendors*
- *New Hampshire Fish and Game*
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***\*\*Please note this is not a school sponsored event\*\****

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# STEP UP AND LEAD

## Leadership and Team Building Seminar

Featuring



Deputy Chief (ret.)  
Frank Viscuso

Hosted by the Alton Firemen's Association

NH Fire Academy - Auditorium  
98 Smokey Bear Blvd. Concord NH

October 12<sup>th</sup> 2022 8a-4p

Cost: \$60

(includes the seminar and a catered lunch. Class size will be limited! Don't miss out on this incredible experience!)

STEP UP  
AND  
LEAD



FRANK VISCUSO

### Course Description:

Every organization's culture is either created by design or default. Creating a culture of exceptional service does not happen by accident. This seminar begins with a discussion on the highest rated fire service leadership traits. Chief Viscuso will also cover the necessary leadership skills that are needed to motivate teams and maintain discipline. Topics will include; mentoring and succession planning, critiquing others, delegating, preventing freelancing, technical report writing, taking on administrative tasks, dealing with insubordination, conducting a post incident analysis, building morale, and leading in today's world. This class will also introduce you to proven theories, methods and techniques that can help your organization provide exceptional customer service and make a great impression on the people they come in contact with on a daily basis.

### About Frank Viscuso:

Deputy Chief Viscuso served as a career firefighter in New Jersey for more than twenty-six years. He is a nationally recognized instructor and speaker, and the author of 7 books including industry bestsellers *Step Up and Lead* and *Step Up Your Teamwork*. Over the past decade Chief Viscuso has spoken to audiences (in and out of the fire service) on many topics that include leadership development, team building, and customer service. His seminars are designed to equip you with the necessary skills you will need to excel in your chosen field.

\*This inspirational seminar is for firefighters of all ranks who are serious about becoming leaders and advancing their careers. Spouses and non-firefighters are encouraged to attend as well.

*"No one anoints a leader. A person may be assigned to a position or a rank, but no one assigns a leader. Leadership is action, not position."* Frank Viscuso

Register Here: <https://forms.gle/iQvPvdc45M7cQ5h6> or with the QR Code ->

For more information, contact: Patrick O'Brien - 603-833-8590 -







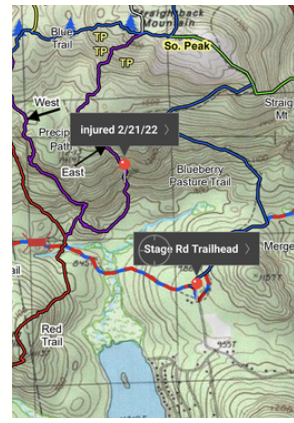
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# Alton Fire Department Rescues Hiker from Icy Trail

On February 21 at approximately 1330, Alton Fire was dispatched for an injury from a fall at an unknown location off Straightback Mountain in the Belknap Range trail system. Crews assembled and responded to staging at the Stage Rd parking area on Alton Mountain Rd. GPS coordinates pinpointed the caller on the Precipice Path East. Based on the knowledge of this terrain and snow/ice on the trails, NH Fish & Game and Lakes Region Search and Rescue were requested to assist with the carryout.

An initial crew of 5 from AFD ascended the trail to make patient contact while additional assistance responded. This crew made patient contact and discovered a hiker with a suspected broken leg. The hiker was very well prepared but tripped on an extremely steep and ice-covered area of the trail. Additional crews hiked in with rope rescue equipment and gear. The injury was managed, and the patient was made comfortable for the long hike out in our rescue litter. As with almost all winter carry outs, this was a very slow process. Ultimately the hiker was safely brought down from the mountain and transported to the hospital.

Success of these incidents would not be possible without the help of our mutual aid partners! Today we were assisted by: Gilmanston FD, New Durham FD, Wolfeboro FD, NH Fish and Game, Lakes Region Search and Rescue, and Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid.

***A very special  
Congratulations  
to Jack Olmstead!***

***Thank you for 35  
Years with  
Plymouth Fire  
Rescue.***







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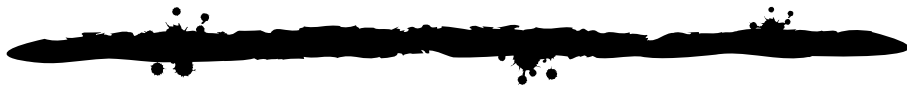
**SALES • SERVICE • PARTS**



On March 3rd, 2022, Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid was sad to say goodbye to Dispatcher Brian "Squirrel" Searles. Dispatcher Searles completed his full-time service to LRMFA on Wednesday 03/02/2022 at 0600.

Squirrel, as he has been known to be called, started with LRMFA full time in August of 2018. In 2019-2020, he took on the role of "Reserve Officer" allowing him to act as a Lieutenant, when on shift without a Lieutenant. He will be staying with us as a per-diem Dispatcher, and we look forward to it.

Brian, thank you for all you've done, you have impacted the agency in so many ways, and we look forward to your continued service in a part time capacity.



Congratulations to Scott Mooney! Today marks 25 years full time and 37 years total service at Gilford Fire Rescue. Wow!

Thank you for your continued dedication to our community.



# LEGALITIES OF SCENE OPERATIONS

Guest Contributor Rudy Cartier



Fire chiefs, officers, and firefighters who respond to scenes need to be familiar with the legal requirements and protections for their activities. Occasionally, we are confronted by occupants and property owners who do not want to allow access to their property. These confrontations often are recorded, ending up on social media and other platforms. While arguments should be avoided and de-escalation utilized whenever possible to gain permitted access to a property, New Hampshire law grants fire departments legal authority that allows us to do our jobs safely and with reduced risk of liability, both civil and criminal. However, a lack of understanding of these laws and failure to implement them properly could open a department to litigation and damage public relations. The following is a brief description of law in New Hampshire and how it can impact scene operations and entry of private property.

**What law allows us to have control of a fire scene?** RSA 154:7 - Authority of Fire Officer in Charge.

**Who qualifies as a Fire Officer in Charge?** This can be the fire chief, any other elected or appointed fire officer, or any member of a fire department acting in the capacity of fire officer in charge. Basically, any firefighter can be considered the fire officer in charge if they have command. This person has the legal authority to direct and control all actions on the scene.

**When can a fire officer in charge exercise their authority?**

- The law allows a fire officer to use their authority during a fire, a service call, or an “other emergency”.
  - A fire is defined as any and all effects of combustion. Further sections of the law expand this to include response to and operation at an actual fire or to an area in which there is reasonable suspicion to be a fire, which would likely cover fire alarm activations and third-party calls. There is no requirement that a fire be out of control in order to qualify as a fire.
  - A service call is any request for fire department services which involves a non-emergency. This could cover a vehicle recovery, animal rescue, or flooded basement.
  - An “other emergency” is any other real emergency which doesn’t involve extinguishment of a fire. This would include EMS calls and vehicle accidents. However, the fire officer in charge only has scene control authority at a vehicle accident if there is HAZMAT release, fuel spill, or injuries (as long as the fire department provides EMS services). Otherwise, the police officer on scene retains control.
- The law does not specify who needs to request the services of the fire department for this authority to be valid. Even if the property owner isn’t the caller, nothing in the law prevents the fire officer in charge from exercising their otherwise allowed authority if the presence of a fire, service call, or “other emergency” has been established. Additionally, there is a specific exception which protects the fire officer in charge while they investigate the possibility of fire which is described below.



**When can a fire department trespass?** Whenever there is a fire, service call, or "other emergency" on said property. Again, the law does not require the property owner or occupant to be the one requesting fire department services for any of these situations. As an example, a fire officer may enter and direct others to enter private property to assist a person who suffers a medical emergency while trespassing on said property. There is also no requirement that a fire be out of control, so investigation of a reported controlled burn would still authorize the fire department to enter private property without the permission or consent of the property owner.



### **When can a fire department enter a private building?**

- Whenever there is a fire, service call, or "other emergency" in said building (or in a nearby building if needed to protect an exposure or mitigate the original emergency). The fire officer in charge can also enter any building if there is reasonable cause to believe a fire is in progress. Activation of a fire alarm system or a third-party call would likely satisfy the requirement for such reasonable cause.
- One area that is not well covered in the law is entry into a private building if there is only a suspicion of an "other emergency" occurring within. As an example, if a call is received about a medical emergency, but the fire department is met at the door by someone saying "there is no emergency here" and refusing to allow entry, the legality of the fire department entering the building to investigate is questionable. However, the courts have held that police officers may enter a property to ascertain the wellbeing of a person if there are specific and articulable facts that reasonably support a warrantless entry. This is referred to as a community caretaking exception. If someone won't let you in to a building where an EMS call has been reported, ask a police officer to investigate; don't try to force your way in. Once the presence of an "other emergency" has been established, fire officers can enter and direct others to enter a private building.

### **When can a fire officer remove people from a scene?**

- If there is a fire, service call, or "other emergency" ongoing, the fire officer in charge can order any person to leave any building or place in the area of the scene to protect them from injury. This would be the legal authority that allows us to order evacuation in the setting of a HAZMAT incident. In other words, if you think that people need to leave a place where a fire, service call, or "other emergency" is occurring for their safety, you can order them to leave.
- Additionally, the law allows the fire officer in charge to remove persons from a scene who are interfering with duties. So if someone is being extremely disruptive during a fire or EMS call to the point that the crew cannot appropriately perform their duties, the fire officer in charge can remove that person from the scene. They may also direct police officers to remove that person from the scene, but nothing in this RSA allows for the arrest or detention of disruptive persons by fire officers.



### **What other authorities does this law give the fire officer in charge?**

- Can block any public highway, street, or private right of way temporarily while on the scene.
- Can direct removal or destruction of any fence, house, building, structure, or vehicle in order to prevent the spread of a fire.
- Can request and be supplied materials such as sand, chemicals, and special equipment as needed to prevent the spread of a fire.
- Can order disengagement of any convoy, train, or caravan if needed to protect people or property.

It's always reasonable and often easiest to get permission to enter a property or building, if possible. However, it is important to remember that our primary goal is to protect lives and property, and the law grants significant leeway to do this safely and legally. Any firefighter who may be in a command position needs to be aware of these authorities as even a brief delay accessing a scene could be catastrophic. As with any legal scenario, it is recommended to discuss these situations with your department or municipality's legal or risk management personnel prior to implementing any guidelines or procedures. Unfortunately, EMS-only agencies are not covered by this RSA, and therefore do not have the same protections and authority granted to fire officers. It may be prudent to request fire or police support if you are a member of such a department and run in to a situation as described above. And remember, regardless of your role or type of department, never place yourself in unnecessary danger. Be safe and well!



Rudolph A. Cartier III, DO, NRP  
Firefighter/Paramedic  
Center Harbor Fire Department

Marissa Schuetz, Esq.



## LRMFA “REUNION” ON THE FIREGROUND

In this one photo there are three people who currently or have previously worked for LRMFA. Did you know that LRMFA's history is intertwined with the local fire service? At a fire in Ashland recently there were 2 current LRMFA employees and 4 former employees. We're not just your friendly neighborhood fire/EMS dispatchers, we're also your local firefighters and EMTs!

Current employees: Deputy Chief Paul Steele, Dispatcher Matt O'Neill  
Former employees: Bob Magoon, Chris Harris, Jack Olmstead, Chris Conway



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# BELMONT STRIKES THE FIRST

On Monday March 7, Belmont Fire Department was dispatched to a reported building fire at Perkins Rd and Gilmanton Rd. Just after companies were dispatched a person pulled into the Fire Department parking lot reporting there was a building on fire across from Dunkin Donuts. Heavy black smoke could be seen from the fire station, and a first alarm was called. Upon arrival of the first Belmont Company crews laid a 4" supply line into the scene from route 106.

Crews were notified by a bystander that all the units of the four-unit townhouse had been evacuated. There was heavy fire coming from the end unit. Two handlines were deployed, and once the exterior fire was knocked down companies began an aggressive interior attack. Companies were able to keep the fire to the first unit with minimal damage to the second unit, and almost no damage to the third and fourth. Mutual Aid from Tilton-Northfield, Laconia, Gilford, Gilmanton, along with LRMFA C1 responded to the scene with Franklin and Stewarts covering the Belmont Station.



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# The Amoskeag Reserve Engine Company NH Chapter of SPAAMFAA



The Amoskeag Reserve Engine Company (AREC) is a club dedicated to the preservation of firefighting history.

Founded as a local group in early 1984, we are the official NH Chapter of the Society of the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motorized Fire Apparatus in America (SPAAMFAA), a national organization founded 1958 and dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and operation of antique fire fighting apparatus.

AREC members display their antique, vintage and retired fire apparatus at meetings, parades, musters, and special events while aiding each other in the rehabilitation of vintage fire equipment. AREC members are a special group of firefighting enthusiasts who enjoy getting together to talk about fire apparatus, history, and tradition.

AREC holds the largest Fire Truck Show and Muster in NH. Last year, as well as in 2022 their Annual Show will be hosted by NH Fire Academy. Members also attend other events throughout the year from Old Home Day Parades, Holiday parades, Touch a Truck Events, Car and Truck shows to other New England SPAAMFAA Chapters events.

Also, this year AREC Members will not only be attending but assisting The Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association and the International Fire Buffs Association.

Continued on next page...







## 2022 IFBA/SPAAMFAA NATIONAL CONVENTION & MUSTER JUNE 22-25,

This event will be the first of its kind and will be a joint convention between SPAAMFAA and IFBA. The Crowne Plaza Boston Woburn is the host hotel, located at 15 Middlesex Canal Park Rd, Woburn, MA 01801. The Shriners Auditorium at 99 Fordham Road in Wilmington is the site of the apparatus show, flea market and hand-tub muster. There is a full selection of tours and seminars that will interest both antique apparatus enthusiasts and fire buffs alike.

Speaking of SPAAMFAA. SPAAMFAA is a diverse organization of firefighting enthusiasts who share a passion for new and antique fire apparatus, and the history and traditions of the fire service. Members include men and women; children and adults; firefighters, retired firefighters, never-been firefighters, and Fire Explorers. We have photographers, collectors, historians, and fire buffs. Some members own antique fire apparatus others, while many others do not. Some document fires and fire apparatus though photography, while still others collect books, patches, toys and models, and all manner of firefighting memorabilia. You do not need to own an antique fire truck to join. Anyone with an appreciation for, (or preservation of), the fire service is welcome.

First established in Syracuse New York in 1958, the organization is still based primarily in the United States and Canada, but it has grown to encompass fifty local chapters, and boasts more than twenty-four hundred members living around the globe.

Are you a member of the Amoskeag Reserve Engine Company? Membership is open to anyone interested in fire apparatus and to the preservation of firefighting history. You do not need to own a truck to belong. You do not need to be a resident of NH. Cost is just \$25 a year. Members receive the newsletter 6 times a year, as well as frequent updates on chapter news, AREC Patch and Window Decal, Bimonthly meetings at topic specific locations like Fire stations, museums, historical societies etc., an annual Show/Muster event and an end of the year Dinner/Banquet. So, if you are not a member please consider joining. You can obtain a Membership Application on our website; [www.arecnh.com](http://www.arecnh.com) on the Welcome Page and the About Us Page or contact our club President Paul Sanborn via email at [kpsanborn@comcast.net](mailto:kpsanborn@comcast.net).

You can also visit us on our other Social Media platforms, We are on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.







On March 18th, LRMFA personnel were onsite of a training exercise in Alexandria. The exercise involved multiple police departments working together in several simulated high-risk evolutions. LRMFA worked to demonstrate an incident dispatch team and assisted with assets as well as interoperability and Incident Command input.

LRMFA demonstrated the ability to use Mutualink to stream live video from an incident back to the Communications Center, or to other locations. Later that same day Deputy Chief Steele, leveraged Mutualink to stream data back to LRMFA during a 1st alarm building fire in Meredith. This is a fantastic tool that allows our dispatchers to maintain situational awareness as well as voice, text, and file sharing with the incident command post.

While working the exercise, Deputy Chief Steele, and Disp. Adam Sattler were able to complete their position task books for Communications Unit Leader (Steele) and Communications Technician (Steele and Sattler). Both are FEMA designations certified by the NH Statewide Interoperability Coordinator. Once both receive confirmation and verification of these designations, they will join the ranks of only a few in NH. It was a great exercise with many learning points for both Law enforcement, and communications.



**The GFSST is very happy to announce, we have an arrangement with Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid to act as our call center.**



**If you need the GFSST, or a team member to call you back, simply contact LRMFA at 603-528-9111 and ask for a GFSST member. LRMFA will page out the appropriate personnel.**



**We are happy to have a Dispatch Center that can work as our intake agency, and support us, while we support the Granite State Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement services.**





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# Moultonborough Fire Department Receives donation of a rescue boat

The Moultonborough Firefighters Association was pleased to make donation of a NRS All Surface Rescue boat. This will greatly expand the fire departments water and ice rescue capabilities. Thanks to retire Chief Kevin LaChapelle and IPS for their assistance in bringing this resource to our department



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# LAKES REGION MUTUAL FIRE AID STATISTICS

	<i>Month</i>	<i>Admin</i>	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Incidents</i>
2022 First Quarter	January	1286	2750	2545
	February	1198	2571	2192
	March	1222	2273	1956
	<i>Total for Quarter</i>	<i>3706</i>	<i>7594</i>	<i>6693</i>
	<i>Avg/Day</i>	<i>41.18</i>	<i>84.38</i>	<i>74.37</i>
2022 Second Quarter	April			
	May			
	June			
	<i>Total for Quarter</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>Avg/Day</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
2022 Third Quarter	July			
	August			
	September			
	<i>Total for Quarter</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>Avg/Day</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
2022 Fourth Quarter	October			
	November			
	December			
	<i>Total for Quarter</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
	<i>Avg/Day</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>
2022	<i>Month</i>	<i>Admin</i>	<i>Emergency</i>	<i>Incidents</i>
	<i>Total for 2022</i>	<i>3706</i>	<i>7594</i>	<i>6693</i>
	<i>Avg/Day</i>	<i>41.18</i>	<i>84.38</i>	<i>74.37</i>

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We want to help your agency shine.

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- How about a retirement? Let us thank them for their service to your community.
- Did you get a new piece of Apparatus? Send us a Picture or two, we love new trucks!
- Hosting a Training? Let us help you fill seats.

Send your Department News to:  
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