



## ***The Ohio Fire Officials Association (OFOA)***

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July 2017

Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.  
450 West Wilson Bridge Road.  
Suite 150  
Worthington, Ohio 43085

Board of Directors:

This is my written report for the OFOA - Fire Code Committee to be distributed as needed for your upcoming Annual Conference and Meeting.

The Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association and OFOA worked together this past year on several key issues that affect the residents of the State of Ohio. Some of these issues are a work in progress and we will continue to push forward to get a resolution that is positive for all.

### ***NFPA 70:***

We took an active role in the Ohio Coalition to support the adoption of the 2017 National Electric Code (NFPA 70) into the Ohio Codes. A letter of support was sent from the Ohio Fire Chiefs to the OBBS on this issue. Several meetings and discussions with OBBS staff and stakeholders took place.

### ***Fireworks HB 226:***

The Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association (OFCA) for House Bill 226 has a sub-committee of which we are members. Our goal will be to offer recommendations on what is best for Ohioans. Of the 15 open seats, the OFCA has two seats on the Fireworks Study Group. The purpose of the fireworks study group is to review and make recommendations regarding the Fireworks Law, to extend to July 1, 2020, the moratorium on issuing fireworks manufacturer and wholesaler licenses, to eliminate, beginning January 1, 2021, the moratorium on geographic transfer of fireworks manufacturer and wholesaler licenses, and, beginning July 1, 2020, to impose a fee on the retail sale of consumer grade fireworks in this state and to expand the ability of individuals to obtain 1.3G display fireworks and obtain and use 1.4G consumer fireworks. Our hope is to provide guidelines for safety and to modify where necessary language in the bill.

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### *State Fire Marshal's Office:*

We work with and continue to have “focus group” meetings with the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office representatives addressing ongoing statewide issues related to code enforcement, public education and fire prevention campaigns. Some of the most current issues include:

- The Adoption of the new Ohio Fire Code in December 2017 and its subsequent release and training in 2018. We have worked with the Fire Marshal on wording and clarification of a few issues in the new code.
- We are working with the Division of EMS on updating the CFSI program and implementing the new Hazard Recognition Officer program for the State of Ohio.
- We assisted and utilized our Chapter Education allowance to set up this year's fire inspector class at the Annual Conference.
- We continue to encourage local fire officials to foster a good working relationship with their local building officials

Sincerely,

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