# Navigating the Challenges of Today's Fire Service

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April 5 - 8, 2021

Texas A&M Hotel & Conference Center College Station, Texas



2021 Texas Fire Chiefs Association Annual Conference

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# Welcome!

Welcome to the 2021 Texas Fire Chiefs Association Executive Conference in College Station Texas. This past year has brought new and unprecedented challenges to the world and the fire service in particular. However, like so many times before, the Texas Fire Service rose to the occasion and helped our citizens overcome many obstacles. Texas fire service leaders had to adopt new mindsets, break traditional paradigms and develop new problem-solving skills. The fire service was asked to do many tasks outside the traditional model and we responded in force. I want to commend all the Texas departments that rose up to meet these new challenges and found ways to navigate in the ever-changing environments that we face.



Les Stephens President, TFCA Fire Chief, San Marcos, TX

The Texas Fire Chiefs Association also faced many challenges this past year. Members also stood in the gap to ensure the success of the organization. In the absence of an Executive Director, many members took on all manner of projects and tasks. Rolling up the sleeves and getting the work done is the hallmark of the Texas Fire Service. Together we are stronger.

I wish to thank the Executive Board for all the hard work over the last few years. Change is not easy but many times it is necessary to progress. Your Texas Fire Chiefs Association is strong and healthy thanks to the hard work of many board members. I would also like to thank our membership for your continued trust in this organization and for the patience you have shown during our transition. The upcoming year proves to be another challenging year and will present new and difficult obstacles, however the TFCA is prepared to help you navigate and to provide the beacon of leadership to ensure your success. Once again, welcome to the conference and enjoy your time here in College Station.

## REGISTRATION Monday, April 5th - 5pm - 8pm - Hotel Lobby

# TFCA MEETINGS

TFS, TIFMAS & TFCA Stakeholders Annual Mtg Monday, April 5th 10am - 12pm - Reveille

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### **TFCA Board of Directors Meeting**

Monday, April 5th 2pm - 5pm - Reveille

### **TFCA Annual Meeting**

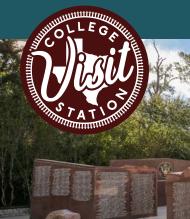
Wednesday, April 7th 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm Century Ballroom

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# Day 1 Morning Keynote - Century Ballroom

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### John Sharp Chancellor, Texas A&M University System

John Sharp was appointed Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System by the Board of Regents on Sept. 6, 2011.

Chancellor Sharp leads one of the largest systems in the country with an annual budget of \$6.3 billion and an enrollment of more than 151,000 at the A&M



System's 11 universities. Additionally, under the System umbrella, there are eight state agencies.

Chancellor Sharp brings with him more than three decades of public service. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Texas A&M University in 1972, where he was a member of the Corps staff of the Corps of Cadets, a member of the 1972 rugby team and was elected student body president. Upon graduation, Sharp was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve.

In 1976, Sharp received a master's degree in public administration from Southwest Texas State University while working full-time with the Legislative Budget Board in Austin. In 1978, he opened a one-man real estate firm in Victoria and became a successful small business owner. That same year he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives.

In 1982, he won a seat in the Texas Senate, and four years later, he was elected to the Texas Railroad Commission. He also was elected state comptroller in 1990 and re-elected in 1994.

### Overview of Texas A&M System

This session will provide an overview of the Texas A&M system focusing on the diversity of program offerings under the Texas A&M umbrella with a focus on those that help shape the Texas fire service. These programs include ESTI, TEEX, Texas Task Force 1, The Texas Forest Service and many others.

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# RECOGNIZED LEADERS IN **FIREHOUSE** DESIGN

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#### Congratulations to the 2021 TFCA Award Winners!

Fire Chief of the Year Paul Henley, Corsicana Fire Department Valor Award Dustin Short, Granite Shoals Fire Rescue Lonestar Achievement Ron Moellenberg, Pflugerville Fire Department President's Award Candice Parker, Buda Fire Department President's Award Kimberly Cisneros, San Marcos Fire Department Fire Safety Award Louis Gonzales, San Marcos Fire Department



#### FIRE FACILITIES

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# Day 1 Morning Breakout - Century Ballroom

**Covid**, **"We don't know what we don't know"** — As Covid arrived in 2020 we quickly found out that it effected everyone differently, from being asymptomatic with little or no symptoms to several symptoms that required hospitalization or being placed on a ventilator in a hospital ICU or even death.

How does the Fire Chief manage a return to work program for firefighters in the post-COVID world? How do we know they are really ready to reenter a high stress work environment that requires wearing a SCBA? While the body of research is growing, there is still little to no data being collected on a fire service specific population. Learn how the Fort Worth Fire Department is working to change this and better understand the impact of Covid through specially designed physicals for its firefighters and what the long term effects may be.



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#### **James Davis**

Fire Chief, Fort Worth, Texas

Jim Davis is the Fire Chief in Fort Worth, Texas. He is a Columbus native having worked for thirty years with the Columbus Division of Fire rising to the rank of Assistant Fire Chief of training and emergency medical services (EMS) and then Administration prior to his appointment in Fort Worth. He has over thirty years of experience in EMS as a paramedic. He is a registered nurse

with a critical care background in ER, ICU, and toxicology. Jim previously sat on the Ohio State Board of Fire, Emergency, and Transportation Services and the Central Ohio Trauma Systems (COTS). He currently sits on the Board of the Tarrant County 9-1-1 System and MedStar Mobile Health Care which provides ambulance transportation in Fort Worth. He holds a Master's degree from The Ohio State University in Business of Operational Excellence (MBDE) where he obtained his Six Sigma Black Belt. He completed his Doctorate in Organizational Learning at the University of Pennsylvania Chief Learning Officer Program where his dissertation focused on the use of medical simulation to understand additional contributing factors involved in medical errors.



### Homer Robertson

#### Executive Assistant Chief, Fort Worth Fire Department

Homer Robertson is the Executive Assistant Chief for the Fort Worth Fire Department where is he has worked for 36 years. He currently leads the Educational and Support Service Division of the Department as well as the Office of Emergency Management for the City of Fort Worth. Homer holds a Master's Degree from Tarleton State University in Political Science. He and his family live in Granbury, Texas.

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# Day 1 Morning Breakout - Hulabaloo

Fire Codes and the Fire Chief — A "Perfect 10" performance is what every fire chief wants from the fire marshal and fire prevention. It takes a partnership between Fire Prevention and Operations to reach peak performance. The partnership joins at the top with the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief must know their role in the fire codes; this allows Prevention to provide for a more optimal and safer working environment for Operations. This session will talk about the 10 most important responsibilities, those items written in the IFC, to the authority of the fire chief, and not the fire code official, will be discussed. Chiefs will be provided tools and knowledge to optimize overall department performance based on the fire code.



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### Kelly Kistner, Fire Marshal, San Marcos, TX

Kelly has served as a fire marshal at the municipal, county, and state levels. Kelly is currently the Fire Marshal for the City of San Marcos, TX. Kelly was the Assistant State Fire Marshal in Texas and responsible, at various times, for the fire inspection; fire investigation; and, outreach, policy and research sections of the SFMD. Kelly is the former fire marshal of Guadalupe County, TX and has served with the Hood County Fire Marshal's Office. He received

his bachelor degree from Southwest Texas State University in Urban and Regional Planning and his Masters of Science in Forensic Sciences from Oklahoma State University.

Chief Kistner has also achieved numerous certifications through the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP), International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and the National Board of Fire Service Professional Qualifications (ProBoard), and Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE), including Certified Fire Protection Specialist, IAAI-Certified Fire Investigator, Fire Marshal, Master Fire Inspector, Master Fire Investigator, Master Firefighter, Fire Officer IV, Fire Instructor III, Incident Safety Officer, and Fire and Life Safety Educator. Additionally, Kelly is a Master Peace Officer and Instructor through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.



#### Ariana Kistner, Asst. Chief/Fire Marshal, Rockwall

Ariana is an Assistant Chief and the Fire Marshal for the City of Rockwall, where she has been for 19 years. She is currently responsible for fire and life safety code enforcement, public education, fire/arson investigations, grant management, and other administrative aspects of the Rockwall Fire Department. Prior to Rockwall FD, Chief Kistner served with the Farmers Branch FD. Ariana holds a Bachelor of Science of Engineering in Fire

Protection and Safety Technologies from Oklahoma State University.

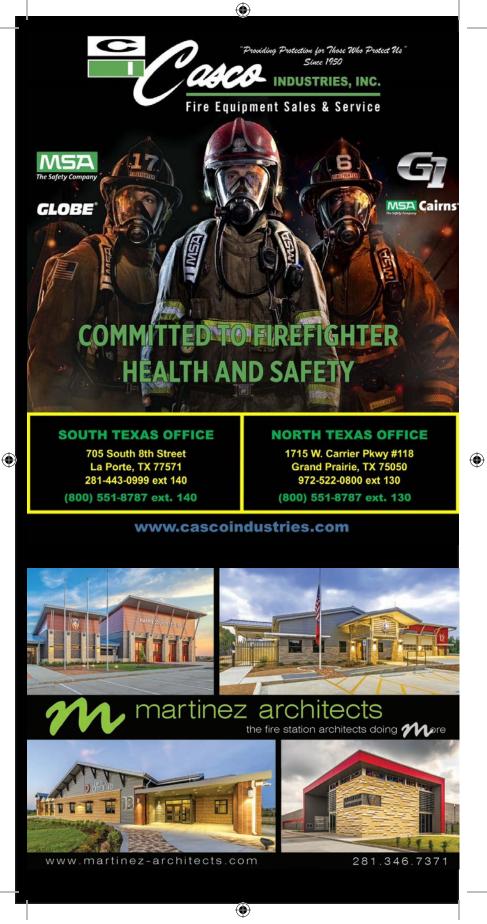
Ariana is currently the President of the TX Fire Marshal's Association and Co-chair of the Fire Advisory Board for the North TX Council of Governments. She is a member of the NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code committee, the ICC Technology Committee, and the ICC Fire Service Membership Council. Ariana serves as an adjunct instructor with TEEX, Collin College, and the Fire Executive Management Training Program at SH State University.

Ariana's very active in several civic organizations in Rockwall, including The Colbert Foundation, Soroptimist International of Rockwall, Meals on Wheels, & the Boys & Girls Club.

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# Day 1 Morning Breakout - Ross

Strategies for Modern Apartment Fires — Apartment buildings that are being built in all areas of the country represent a unique problem for today's firefighters. They are multiple stories in height, utilize multiple construction types, and occupy large areas, sometimes several city blocks. Many features of these buildings represent high-rises and some of those tactics can be utilized in these structures. However, they do not have all of the features of a high-rise and tactics have to address those issues. These are light weight buildings that do not have the fire resistive construction of high-rises. These buildings have restricted access and make for unique rescue profiles.

The presentation will explore these buildings with their inherent features, both good and bad, and how to utilize them or overcome them. This presentation will explore the thought processes and criteria that may be utilized to formulate these decisions and combat the situation while keeping the firefighters safe.



#### Stuart Grant, Operations Chief, Grapevine, TX

Stuart Grant, a 42-year veteran of the fire service, is the Operations Chief in Grapevine. Prior to Grapevine, Stuart served 36 years with Dallas Fire-Rescue ending at the rank of Deputy Chief. He was assigned to the Special Operations Division, Battalion 3, Battalion 5 and the Training Division. He is certified as a master firefighter and fire instructor with the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. Stuart also serves as a Task Force Leader for Texas Task Force 2, Urban

Search and Rescue. He has been a H.O.T. instructor and speaker at FDIC, FDIC West, instructs at Collin College in McKinney, Texas, and taught at the Texas A&M University Municipal Fire School. He has two Associates' degrees and a Bachelor's degree in Fire Administration. He is certified as a Chief Fire Officer (CFD) and as a Fire Service Chief Executive Officer (FSCED).

# Day 1 Morning Breakout - Reveille

Firefighter Health & Safety — Fast paced session to discuss the latest changes to NFPA 1582 and explore the topics of Fire Department Medical Physicals, Cancer Prevention, Cancer Trends, Navigating the Worker's Compensation process, Roadway Safety and Fitness Assessments.



### Robert Fite, Fire Chief Grand Prairie

Prior to becoming Fire Chief for Grand Prairie in 2012, he served as the Fire Chief in Georgetown, TX since 2009. Chief Fite has been a firefighter/paramedic since 1988 serving first in Lancaster, TX and then in Richardson, TX. Chief Fite is very proud of the recent accomplishments of the GPFD including receiving the American Heart Assoc Gold Award for the 6th year in a row, being a Heart Healthy community by the North Central Texas Regional

EMS Council, and receiving the highest Insurance rating of an ISO 1. All of three of these accomplishments have a direct impact on the quality of life and safety our citizens.

Chief Fite is an EFD Graduate from the National Fire Academy, as well as a licensed paramedic and master firefighter. He has a Master's Degree in HR Mgmt from Midwestern State University and a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Admin from Western Illinois University.

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NFPA 1582 fitness assessments at your department

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# Day 1 Afternoon Keynote - Century Ballroom

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### Russell Burnham, Founder, Front Line Mobile Health

Russ Burnham has an extensive military background, starting with his training at the US Army Medical Department in the Interservice Physician Assistant Program as an undergraduate student and Tripler Army



Medical Center as a graduate student. Burnham is a physician assistant and writer for Medical Equation in West Lake Hills, Texas, for which he is deeply involved in Workman's Compensation reviews.

## **Michael Conner,** Co-Owner, Front Line Mobile Health

Mike has served in the Army as a platoon leader, company commander, and staff officer. After transitioning careers he earned his Master's in Physician Assistant studies, Conner served as a primary care manager for



a U.S. Army Cavalry Squadron. Mike's passion is to be a catalyst for meaningful change in the first responder community through education and research. He is a member of the American College of Cardiology, and the National Fire Protection Association.

### Frontline Mobile Health - The Long Term Effects of Covid

Many first responders have been exposed to Covid-19 and sadly many of those have been sidelined for varying amounts of time to recover from the virus. Anxiety among this group is understandably very high. The issue that leaders in public safety seem to be grappling with the most revolves around the question of "How does the virus impact firefighters and law enforcement officers and their ability to safely return to work after getting COVID-19?" How can we help the individual firefighter or law enforcement officer get the proper Post-COVID analysis as it relates to their job and give them the confidence that they are ready to safely return to work? Additionally, how do we advise our fire and police chiefs that their members returning after an infection do not pose a risk to themselves or their teammates?

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Register Tuesday

LOCATION	<b>SESSION 1</b> 8:00-9:30 am	BREAK	<b>SESSION 2</b> 9:45-10:45 am	BREAK
Century Ballroom	John Sharp	AWARD CEREMONY	Davis & Robertson	
Hulabaloo			Kelly & Ariana Kistner	
Ross			Stuart Grant	
Reveille			Robert Fite	

Wednesday

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LOCATION	8:00-9:30 ам	9:45-10:45 ам	1	Ψ
Century Ballroom	Clyde Gordon	Dena Ali Part 1		
Hulabaloo				
Ross				
Reveille				
Corps				

Thursday

ROOM 8:00-10:00 AM I 10:00-12:00 PM   CENTURY BALLROOM Dan Muncy B Jason Redman	CENTURY Dan Muncy				
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CENTURY BALLROOM Dan Muncy Jason Redman	CENTURY BALLROOM Dan Muncy A Jason Redman	ROOM	8:00-10:00 am		10:00-12:00 рм
		_	Dan Muncy	BREAK	Jason Redman

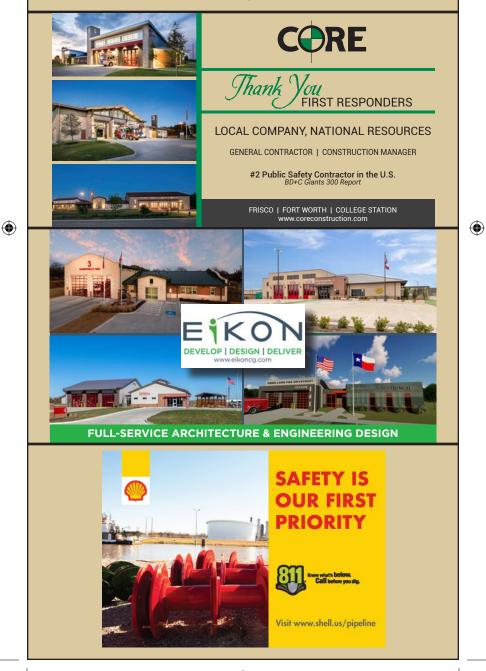




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# Day 1 Afternoon Breakout-Century Ballroom

Fire as a Weapon — Overview of high threat events and the importance of developing integrated operational capacity with partnering agencies. We will focus on fire being used as a weapon to thwart, prevent or complicate emergency response; provide a history of the threat, discuss the various challenges and provide tactical operational capabilities which can be implemented at various levels based upon the threat to your community.

This is not arson. Rather, an incident where one or more suspects who are actively engaged in a violent act and have introduced fire to complicate the response. This threat faces all communities and a response solution is needed.



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### John Delaney, Captain II/High Threat Program Manager

John Delaney has been in the fire service for over twenty-seven years. Currently, he is the program manager for Arlington County Fire Department's High Threat Response Program which focuses on building operational capabilities for atypical threats including: active shooter, explosive, CBRN, fire as a weapon and civil disturbance events. The program focuses on the development of multiagency, integrated police and fire response to maximize

operational effectiveness. Previously he was the team leader for the National Medical Response Team –National Capital Region (NMRT-NCR). The NMRT-NCR was a federally funded weapon of mass destruction response team which comprised of over 15D fire fighters, paramedics, hazardous material specialists, law enforcement officers, doctors, and nurses from within the Washington metropolitan region.

Captain Delaney has participated in multiple large scale regional and national emergencies; including the 1998 Florida Wildfires, 2004 Hurricane Charley, 2001 Anthrax Attack at the Senate Office Buildings, the September 11, 2001 attack on the Pentagon and the Haiti earthquake of 2010. He is the former Chair of the InterAgency Board (IAB) and currently heads the National High Threat Institute. He is a graduate of James Madison University and in 2008 received his Master's Degree in Homeland Security from the Naval Postgraduate School. Captain Delaney resides in Ashburn, Virginia with his wife and three children.

## Day 1 Afternoon Breakout - Hulabaloo

**Ballistic Protection 101** — Ballistic PPE is one of the hot new topics facing Fire and EMS today. It all began with the term "Active Shooter" and "Warm Zone Operations" which led to the rapid development of the NFPA 3000 standard. In this session we will focus on Ballistic PPE and discuss the NIJ Threat levels, Special Threat Testing of soft body armor and hard armor/rifle plates and the differences between the various types/styles of carrier systems currently



available for Public Safety.

### Robert Barnard, Jr., President, Covert Armor International LLC.

Barnard has been a Body Armor Professional since 1992 - Having served as a Manufacturers Representative, National Sales Manager, New Product Design Consultant and currently President of Covert Armor International LLC.

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# Evening Entertainment Sponsored By:

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### Tuesday & Wednesday Night 9pm - 11pm



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# Day 1 Afternoon Breakout - Ross

ATF NRT: What You Need to Know — ATF's National Response Team is the Federal Government's first responder to large, catastrophic fire and explosion events. This investigative unit is comprised of ATF Special Agents, Certified Fire Investigators, Certified Explosives Specialists, Engineers, Chemists, and Canine Handlers and is designed to respond within hours in the United States. Because of ATF's unique Federal jurisdiction, ATF's NRT mission has evolved into deep partnerships with state and local agencies in order to help identify the origin and cause of these large-scale events. Many of these investigations result in arrest and convictions. In this presentation, SSA Robin will examine NRT capabilities and resources, discuss inter-agency cooperation and joint investigations, and detail the NRT product provided to partner agencies.



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### **Dixon Robin,** Supervisory Special Agent, ATF National Response Team

Dixon Robin is a Supervisory Special Agent/Certified Fire Investigator with the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Based out of Rochester, New York, Dixon has been a Supervisor with ATF's National Response Team since 2017. In this role, Dixon leads a veteran team of ATF Special Agents and subject matter experts in

responding to large fire and explosion events throughout the United States to investigate potential violations of Federal and state arson and explosives laws.

Dixon has been employed in Federal law enforcement for over 26 years. After serving as a Special Agent with both the National Science Foundation's Office of Inspector General and NASA's Office of Inspector General, Dixon joined ATF in 1998. In 2003, Dixon entered ATF's CFI program and was assigned a position in the ATF Rochester, NY Field Office. Dixon worked daily with the Rochester Arson Task Force which concentrated on the State and Federal investigation/prosecution of arson- and explosives-related crimes. During this time, Dixon joined ATF's National Response Team, becoming a full time member in 2015. Dixon holds a BA (History) and an MA (Forensics – Crime in Commerce) from The George Washington University. Dixon is an IAAI Certified Fire Investigator and Certified Instructor.

# Day 1 Afternoon Breakout - Reveille

LODD -The First Six Hours — The First 6 Hours course will help provide first responder agencies, their command staff, and honor guards, with what departments need to have in place prior to the death of a first responder, and what steps need to occur in the first six hours following a line of duty death.



### Billy Wusterhausen, Fire Chief, Leander, TX

Billy Wusterhausen has been involved in the fire service since 1991 and currently serves the Leander Fire Department as their Fire Chief. Billy has been with the Texas Line of Duty Death Task Force since 2002, and currently serves the organization as a board member and response commander. Billy has responded to countless line of duty deaths state wide to assist police, fire, and EMS agencies and their families when dealing with an LODD.

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# Day 2 Morning Keynote - Century Ballroom

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### **Clyde Gordon III,** Houston Fire Department, Chief, District 8

With 36 years as a proven leader in the fire service and 30 years within the Houston Fire Department, Clyde Gordon offers a unique blend of leadership, vision, and knowledge. He has a reputation for a strong work ethic, exceptional fire ground operations and management, and building uncompromising integrity and responsibility in a crew. Clyde believes in continuous improvement of fire ground skills and



operations through regular and consistent training. He is known for his teaching through honest and personal first-hand experience.

Clyde spent over 10 years as an instructor with Lone Star College in Cypress, Texas and now devotes his time as an instructor with FD Tactics and County Fire Tactics.

### **Complacency: The Silent Killer**

This class dives deep into leadership development and what is expected of us as crew leaders by discussing personal and systemic failures that led to a line of duty death and the changes that were made as a result. From first year officers to seasoned chiefs, we have a responsibility to ensure our crews readiness by gaining the tactical and mental advantage to survive the fireground.



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# Day 2 Morning Keynote - Century Ballroom

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### Dena Ali, Captain, Raleigh, NC

Dena Ali has worked her way up the ranks with the Raleigh (NC) Fire Department. She previously served as a police officer for five years. Ali has a degree from North Carolina State University and an MPA from the University of North Carolina, where her research focused on firefighter suicide. She was awarded the 2018 MPA student of the year. She has received several awards throughout her career, the one she is most proud of is the NC Office of State Fire Marshal Honor,



Courage, and Valor award from 2018 for her steadfast effort to bring awareness to firefighter mental health through her vulnerability. Dena has also served as a SME at the National Fire Academy where she assisted in curriculum review for their health and wellness curriculum. Dena is an advocate of awareness, education, and understanding of mental health disorders and suicidality. She speaks locally and nationally on these topics and is a QPR Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper Instructor. She has written several articles on topics such as suicide prevention, peer support, wellness, and post-traumatic stress. Dena is the founder and director of North Carolina Peer Support where she helped to develop their statewide curriculum. She is also a founding member of the Carolina Brotherhood, a group of cyclists/ firefighters in North Carolina who honor the fallen and their families annually.

### Addressing Suicide a Proactive Approach to Mental Health

The importance of proactive mental health to combat the many mental health disorders that are common among first responders. These include depression, addiction, anxiety, and Post-Traumatic Stress Symptoms. Tragically, when not addressed, the end result of any of these can be suicide. As first responders, we often think of mental health disorders in terms of us vs them. We believe that our responsibility to our community means we can never show any sort of weakness. This misperception can lead members to suppress emotions and fail to address the underlying causes that can build into crisis.

The most devastating and profound of these all is suicide. This course is designed to explain how creating an environment to encourage help seeking behavior can alter an individual's trajectory from reaching suicide. Individual, company level & departmental methods for prevention are explained. Suicide tragically results when the decedent incorrectly concludes their death could be a service to others. While there are many causes associated with suicide, there are a few risk factors that can be identified early to help with intervention. Sadly, our ability to predict suicide today is no better than chance. I posit that by creating a culture of acceptance and understanding through positive social support, we can make strides at improving mental health.

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# Day 2 Afternoon Keynote - Century

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### **Chris Combs,** Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the FBI San Antonio

Christopher Combs was appointed as the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the FBI San Antonio Field Office in April 2014. San Antonio Division encompasses 60 counties, 65,636 square miles, two federal judicial districts, one third of the border with Mexico (625 miles), and employs approximately 500 employees and over 175 Task Force Officers. SAC Combs oversees the Austin, Brownsville, Del Rio, Laredo, McAllen, and Waco Resident Agencies.



#### SAC Combs entered the Senior Executive Service (SES)

ranks in January 2012, when he became Section Chief of the FBI Strateoic Information and Operations Center (SIOC), the FBI's 24-hour worldwide command, control, and operations center. SAC Combs also served as the FBI lead in the development of training and response programs to combat active shooter events throughout the U.S. SAC Combs has directed numerous domestic and international critical incidents throughout his career. He was the initial FBI On-Scene Commander (OSC) at the Pentagon crash site immediately after the terrorist attacks on 9/11 and then served as the FBI representative to Unified Command (UC) for the duration of on-scene operations. SAC Combs served as the FBI representative to UC at the U.S. Capitol during the anthrax mail attacks of 2001. He served as the FBI Operations Section Chief for numerous terrorist incidents to include: Holocaust Museum Shooting, Pentagon Shooting, and the Luna Restaurant Bombing in Pakistan. SAC Combs also <u>served as the Deputy OSC of all FBI operations in London,</u> England in support of the London 2012 Olympics. During the response and investigation of the mass shooting at Sutherland Springs Church in November 2017 and the Odessa Active Shoot in 2019, he served as the OSC for the FBI. In March 2018 in Austin, Texas, SAC Combs was in command of more than 600 FBI employees who were able to successfully identify the Austin serial bomber and prevent further injury and death.

He received the FBI Director's Award for Distinguished Service to the Law Enforcement Community for President Obama's 2008 Inauguration. He is a Senior Fellow with the Ash Center at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Prior to joining the FBI, he was a volunteer firefighter for eight years with the Freeport, NY and New Berlin, WI Fire Depts.

#### Leadership During a Crisis

This session provides case-specific perspectives of challenges law enforcement and other organizational leaders face during significant crisis events. SAC Combs leads participants through detained discussions of crisis events he has worked and methodically analyzed during his 25-year career with the FBI, to include the Pentagon on 9/11, the Sutherland Springs church and Midland/Odessa shootings, Hurricane Harvey, and the Austin serial bomber case. SAC Combs provides a detailed briefing of what leaders should expect in a major crisis event and offers best practices which will enable organizations to better prepare for, manage and recover from crisis events.

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# Day 2 Afternoon Breakout-Century Ballroom

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It's More Than a Headline: Leadership through Virtual Rage — An officer in the department is being investigated for possible employee misconduct and the media picks up the story and it spins up a worldwide news cycle and social media frenzy. In a matter of hours an internal investigation turns into a social media spectacle that upsets the public's trust, offends the fire service at large, and leaves other fire officers on the department confused. As a member of your department's leadership team, how would you handle it?

In this class Chief Mike Walker is going to discuss what the Oklahoma City Fire Department learned when they experienced that very situation when a Fire Officer transported a small child who sustained a burn to their leg to the hospital in the Fire Engine instead of waiting for an ambulance.



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### Mike Walker,

Oklahoma City Deputy Chief of Operations

Deputy Chief Mike Walker has worked within the Oklahoma City Fire Department since 1990. Currently, Chief Walker serves as the Deputy Chief of Operations. Chief Walker has a degree in Municipal Fire Protection from Oklahoma State University. He is a lead facilitator for the Oklahoma State University Executive Fire Officer Program.

Chief Walker has been an instructor for 27 years and has presented at multiple national and international venues. Chief Walker was a Fire Instructor for Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center for several years.

Chief Walker and his wife, Chris, have been married since 2004. They have four grown children and three grandchildren. They currently reside in south Oklahoma City.

# Day 2 Afternoon Breakout - Corps

The Future is Now! — Technology in the fire service & what the future looks like. Covering technology that's available today to improve your department's operational capabilities and performance. Why is Data Analytics important to us and how it can be used for Community Risk Reduction. Also covering what the future fire service looks like with virtual reality, robotics, augmented reality, and artificial intelligence. Featuring Battalion Chief Cory Claborn from Wylie Fire Department, and Caleb Holt founder of MakeSafeTech.org.



### Scott Roseberry, Battalion Chief, Garland, TX

Scott Roseberry, CFO, MPA, is a Battalion Chief with Garland Fire Department. He is a member of the IAFC Technology Committee, Department of Homeland Security – First Responder Resource Group, and Co-Founder of the Emergency Services Technology Symposium in DFW.

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# Day 2 Afternoon Breakout - Hulabaloo

Active Attack Integrated Response — This course offers guidelines for personnel who may respond to an Active Attack Incident. The goal is to provide effective rescue procedures, common communication, and coordination with local law enforcement as well as provide for firefighter safety while working at an Active Attack Incident.



#### Terry Nicols, Chief of Police, Seguin, TX

Terry Nichols currently serves as the Chief of Police for the City of Seguin, Texas Police Department. Prior to becoming Chief, he served as both the Assistant Director and Director of Curriculum Development for the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Center (ALERRT) at Texas State University. Terry is one of three founding members who initiated and led the creation of the internationally recognized ALERRT Center at Texas State University

Terry has more than 30 years law enforcement experience including 21 years with the San Marcos, Texas Police Department and 3 years as Chief of the Brownwood, Texas Police Department. He is a co-author for the book Active Shooter Events and Response published by CRC Press in June 2013 and "Active Shooter Events from 2000-2012" published in the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin January 2014. Terry frequently speaks at national and international conferences on the active shooter threat, officer safety, and law enforcement organizational leadership. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master of Science Degree from Southwest Texas State University.



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### Stan Standridge, Chief of Police, San Marcos

Standridge began his law enforcement career in 1995 with the Abilene Police Department, where he worked as Patrol Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Assistant Chief. He also spent a decade on the SWAT Team, served in Internal Affairs, and was an instructor on several topics including Ethics, Leadership and Active Shooter. On July 9, 2009, Stan was appointed Chief of the Abilene Police Department, serving for eleven years in the role.

Since 2004, Chief Standridge has been a certified adjunct instructor with Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT), which is the national model used by law enforcement in response to active threats. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, session 226, as well as the Texas Leadership Command College, class 59.

In 2018, Chief Standridge graduated the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar. He holds an undergraduate degree from Midwestern State University where he graduated Summa Cum Laude, and a Masters of Public Administration from Sam Houston State University. Prior to his policing career, Stan served in the United States Air Force as a Security Specialist, serving two years overseas and two years at Dyess Air Force Base.

Chief Standridge currently serves as the President of the Texas Police Chiefs Association and the SafeShield Committee Chair for the International Association of Chiefs of Police. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including 20 Under 40 Business Leader, Executive Leadership Award, I-CAN Hero, and the TPCA's Innovation Award.

As a leader, his primary passion is to faithfully steward those in his charge and to build strong bridges with the community they serve.

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# Day 2 Afternoon Breakout - Reveille

**Trends in Community Risk Reduction** — Wanting to start a Community Risk Reduction program? I will discuss lessons learned as I got started, simple programs that can be implemented with little to no funding, and the path of building relationships with the community to help with your CRR mission.



### Jason Tharp, District Chief, Eastex Fire Department

Jason Tharp has worked in the Fire Service for more than 14 years and is a certified TCFP Advanced Structural Firefighter, Instructor III, Fire Officer IV, Incident Safety Officer, Wildland Firefighter, Advanced Fire Investigator, Driver Operator – Pumper, Driver Operator – Aerial, and Fire and Life Safety Educator II as well as an EMT Basic.

He graduated from the Fire Service Chief Executive Officer program at Texas A&M TEEX and the Mays Business School, and the Texas Fire Chiefs Academy from the Texas Fire Chiefs Association. He started as a volunteer firefighter for the West I-IO Volunteer Fire Department at Station I in 2006, and worked up to a Station Captain and Department Safety Officer in 2010. Jason was hired to the Day Crew in 2014 as a part-time firefighter, in July of 2018 he became the Lieutenant of Community Risk Reduction A year later Community Risk Reduction was made an official division of the department and he was promoted to head of the division as the Division Chief of Community Risk Reduction. In March of 2020 Chief Tharp was nominated and awarded the Lone Star Achievement award by the Texas Fire Chiefs Association.

Chief Tharp holds an Associates Degree in Fire Science from Lone Star College and is currently enrolled at Texas A&M-San Antonio studying Emergency Management Administration with an expected graduation date of May 2021. Along with his role at HCESD 48, he is also a full-time District Chief for Eastex Fire Department (HCESD 10) in Northeast Harris County.

# Day 2 Afternoon Breakout - Ross

TCFP Update and Q&A — The TCFP leadership team will lead a discussion about the TCFP that will be driven by questions and concerns related to the agency including but not limited to Sunset, recent rule changes, the Compliance Inspection process and testing.



### **Mike Wisko and Staff,** Executive Director, TX Commission on Fire Protection

Mike Wisko is currently the Executive Director for the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP). Mike retired from the Galveston Fire Department after serving 31 years including 7 years as Fire Chief. He has been affiliated with the TCFP since 1995, serving on the Firefighter Advisory committee for 25 years. He is a graduate of the Texas Fire Chief's Academy and the Texas A & M

Mays School of Business Fire Service Chief Executive Officer program and served on the TFCA Executive Board for 5 years, serving as President in 2017.

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# Day 3 Morning - Century Ballroom

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### **Dan Munsey,** Fire Chief San Bernardino County Fire Protection District

Fire Chief Dan Munsey was appointed to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District in November 2019. The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District provides fire protection and emergency medical services to the unincorporated parts of San Bernardino County, California and to 24 incorporated cities. San Bernardino County is the largest county in the United States by area covering a total of 20,160 square miles. Chief Munsey has served the citizens



of San Bernardino County for over 25 years as a paramedic, firefighter, company, and chief officer. As a chief officer, Chief Munsey has held the ranks of battalion chief, division chief, assistant chief over the last 12 years.

Chief Munsey holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Public Administration and is a graduate of the California Special District's Association Leadership Academy. Chief Munsey is credentialed Chief Fire Officer through the Center for Public Safety Excellence and possess a California State Fire Marshal Chief Fire Officer certification. Chief Munsey has presented numerous times at Fire Rescue international, TEEX Leadership Academy, and various other public safety conferences. Chief Munsey publishes articles and white papers on the fire service on a regular basis and contributes to fire service research through various institutions.

Chief Munsey oversaw San Bernardino County Fire's Special Operations Division for several years. This position included oversight of the fire department's wildland, heavy fire equipment, helicopter programs as well as several specialty programs/teams including California Regional Task Force 6 (CA-RTF-6) (US&R), the tactical/SWAT medic program, ARFF, and Hazardous material teams. Chief Munsey spent several years on California incident management teams in the operations section on fires throughout the Western United States. As a seasoned chief officer in San Bernardino County, Chief Munsey has significant experience in incident and unified command over large diverse incidents including mass casualty, wildfire, flood rescue, mudslide, structural fire, train derailments, and hazardous material that have occurred throughout the region. Chief Munsey is a state certified fire officer, chief officer, and wildland command instructor.

#### The Next Chapter

Change is to fix the past, but transformation shapes the future. The next chapter of all of our leadership journeys mandate shaping the future. Transformational leadership in 2021 requires much more than thought than the years past. Changing technology, changing all-hazard environments, changing generations, changing liabilities, changing codes and regulations, and changing pandemics means nothing and yet... it means everything. These "changes: are already here. This is a call for leaders to transform our fire service's future to a new vision.

Topics discussed: Technology, all-risk operations, community risk reduction, management, liability, blind spots, safety, and the leadership skills required to shape a better future.

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# Day 3 Morning - Century Ballroom

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### **Jason Redman,** Navy Seal

Jason Redman joined the Navy on September 11, 1992 and spent eleven years as an enlisted SEAL. He was selected for the Seaman to Admiral commissioning program and attended Old Dominion University graduating Summa Cum Laude in May 2004. He completed his time with the Hampton Roads Naval ROTC as Student Battalion Commanding Officer before he was commissioned as a SEAL Officer.

Over the next four years, Lieutenant Redman completed combat deployments in both Afghanistan and Iraq. On



September 13, 2007, outside of Fallujah, Iraq, Lieutenant Redman's Assault Team came under heavy machine gun and small arms fire and he was severely wounded in the ensuing firefight. While recovering at Bethesda Naval Medical Center, Redman authored and hung a bright orange sign on his door, which became known as the Sign on the Door and became a statement and symbol for wounded warriors everywhere.

In 2010, While still on active duty and recovering from his injuries, Redman founded the Wounded Wear™ clothing line and the Combat Wounded Coalition™, a Non-Profit organization which inspires combat wounded warriors to Overcome. Redman served as the executive director of the organization for almost ten years. The organization raised almost \$3 Million and served thousands of wounded warriors.

In November of 2013, after 21 years of service, Redman retired from the Navy and launched SOF Spoken LLC, a speaking company which provides inspirational presentations on leadership, teamwork and overcoming adversity for businesses, first responders, sports teams, and government organizations.

Redman published the New York Times bestselling book, "The Trident: The Forging and Reforging of a Navy SEAL Leader". His book details lessons learned in leadership and overcoming adversity throughout his SEAL career while also discussing his combat deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq as well as his personal journey with his wife Erica and their three children. In Dec of 2019, Jason released his second book, "Overcome, How to crush adversity with leadership techniques of America's toughest warriors". It is a step by step action plan how to deal with major adversity in our physical, personal and professional lives.

Today, Jason has expanded his programs with his focus on helping individuals, companies and teams to "GET OFF THE X" ™ from "Life Ambushes. He provides, speaking, workshops, online programs, executive coaching and business consulting to businesses around the world and group coaching through his "Get off the X Training and Overcome Army™ group coaching programs.

Jason has given a TED talk and appeared on numerous national news networks including Fox News, CBS, CNN, and CBN. He has appeared frequently on Fox and Friends and the Huckabee show. Jason has appeared in multiple documentaries including History Channel's, Navy SEALs, America's Secret Warriors.

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Texas A&M Conference Center COVID Recommendation on Face Masks and Social Distancing:

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To maintain the health, safety and comfort of our guests and team members, face masks and physical distancing practices are strongly encouraged throughout all areas of the hotel and conference center. While face masks are not required for hotel guests, we do encourage you to wear them when possible. Our team members will all be wearing appropriate PPE for their individual roles. As a reminder, safe physical distancing practices suggests maintaining a 6-foot distance between you and other guests.



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