

Article 38A - Fires and Investigations**42A.**

[(a) If any volunteer firefighter or individual serving on a volunteer rescue squad dies as a direct result of active participation in fighting a fire or while going to or from a fire, or performing any other duties necessary to the operation or maintenance of the fire company or actively participating in the ambulance or rescue work of an incorporated volunteer fire company or volunteer rescue squad in the State, and leaves a surviving spouse, or minor child or children; or if there is no surviving spouse or minor child or children, but leaves a parent or parents, or a sister or brother, who were dependent upon the decedent for support, there shall be paid to the surviving spouse, or to the guardian of the minor child or children, or the surviving parent or parents or sister or brother dependent upon the decedent for support, an amount determined by the board of trustees of at least the sum of \$2,000 from the treasury of the Maryland State Firemen's Association.]

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "BOARD" MEANS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

(B) (1) THE BOARD SHALL PAY DEATH BENEFITS UNDER THIS SECTION IF A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OR INDIVIDUAL SERVING ON A VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD DIES:

(I) AS A DIRECT RESULT OF ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN FIGHTING A FIRE OR WHILE GOING TO OR FROM A FIRE;

(II) WHILE PERFORMING ANY OTHER DUTIES NECESSARY TO THE OPERATION OR MAINTENANCE OF THE FIRE COMPANY; ~~OR~~

(III) WHILE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THE AMBULANCE, ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT, OR RESCUE WORK OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE, AMBULANCE, OR RESCUE COMPANY OR VOLUNTEER ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT UNIT IN THE STATE; OR

(IV) WHILE PROVIDING EMERGENCY OR RESCUE ASSISTANCE, WHETHER ACTING ALONE OR AT THE DIRECTION OF OR WITH A FIRE, AMBULANCE, OR RESCUE COMPANY OR ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT UNIT.

(2) THE BENEFITS SHALL BE PAID FROM THE TREASURY OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION IN AN AMOUNT THE BOARD DETERMINES, BUT NOT LESS THAN \$2,000, REGARDLESS OF:

(I) THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE DECEDENT DIED; ~~OR~~

(II) ~~WHETHER THE DECEDENT DIED WHILE ACTING ALONE OR AT THE DIRECTION OF OR WITH A FIRE, AMBULANCE, OR RESCUE COMPANY OR ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT UNIT IN:~~

1. THIS STATE;

2. ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ADJACENT STATES - DELAWARE, PENNSYLVANIA, WEST VIRGINIA, OR VIRGINIA; ~~OR~~