

2017
ANNUAL REPORT

**MARYLAND
FIRE-RESCUE EDUCATION
AND
TRAINING COMMISSION**



Service Readiness through Education and Training

Larry Hogan
Governor

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D.
Secretary of Higher Education

R. Michael Clemens
Chairman

Division of the Maryland Higher Education Commission

MSAR # 984

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August 31, 2017

Dr. James Fielder
Secretary
Maryland Higher Education Commission

Dear Secretary Fielder:

Pursuant To Education Article § 11-503(a) (12), please see the attached report regarding the activities of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission.

The Commission has the responsibility of ensuring that the men and women of Maryland's fire and rescue services are trained to and educated at the highest standards. Whether they are career or volunteer personnel, they are trained to common standards established through a statewide coordinated fire-rescue training system. The MFRETC has the responsibility of coordinating the work of numerous statewide agencies, local fire and rescue academies and institutions of higher education, and the Maryland Fire-Rescue Institute. All of these entities work together to ensure that we are able to prepare our personnel for the challenges they face in serving the public.

The MFRETC is committed to continuing to enhance emergency services and education to provide the best possible service for the citizens of the Great State of Maryland. The members of the Commission would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely yours,
R. Michael Clemens
Chairman

RMC: avo

August 31, 2017

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor
State of Maryland
The State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor Hogan:

Over the past several months, we have all been made aware of just how quickly tragedy can strike. Whether responding to a large scale fire disaster such as the California wildfires, a mass casualty incident such as those recently occurring in Manchester, or a personal medical emergency or residential fire, it is important that the men and women of our fire, rescue, and emergency medical services are ready to provide assistance at a moment's notice. In Maryland, our fire and rescue personnel are among the best trained and educated responders in the nation. Whether they are members of the volunteer or career force, they are dedicated professionals who know what to do and how to do it.

This readiness and capability to serve is the result of a continuing commitment by our communities and the state to provide free access to the best possible emergency services continuing education available. This education and training is based on common standards established through a coordinated fire-rescue training system, and the learning outcomes are validated by state-wide certification systems. Because of the dedication of our men and women of the emergency services, the public benefits not only from superior service, but also from a unique combination volunteer-and-career workforce that provides a tremendous cost savings to the public.

We are committed to continuing to enhance the state's emergency services education and training system to prepare those who serve to save lives and property, and to do so in the safest possible way. The members of the MFRETC wish to express our appreciation for the opportunity to be a part of this endeavor and to serve the citizens of the Great State of Maryland.

Sincerely yours,
R. Michael Clemens
Chairman

RMC: avo

Report Submitted Pursuant To Education Article § 11-503(a) (12)

August 31, 2017

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President
Senate of Maryland
H-107 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

The past few months have continued to bring reminders of how quickly disasters can strike. The wildfires raging in California, the tragic suicide bombing in Manchester, or personal fire or medical emergencies – all of these incidents require a quick response from the men and women of our fire, rescue, and emergency medical services. Maryland's fire and rescue personnel are among the best training and educated first responders in the country. The many members of our career and volunteer forces are dedicated professionals who know what needs to be done and how to do it.

The readiness and capability to serve of Maryland's personnel is a product of the continuing commitment made by our communities and the state to provide free access to the highest possible quality emergency services education. The education and training provided throughout Maryland uses common standards based upon a coordinated fire-rescue training system, utilizing learning outcomes validated by statewide certification systems. The unique combination volunteer-and-career workforce provides tremendous cost-savings to the public, while the dedication of our men and women in the fire service allows the public to benefit from superior service.

We are committed to continuing to enhance the state's emergency services education and training system to prepare those who serve to save lives and property, and to do so in the safest possible way. The members of the MFRETC wish to express our appreciation for the opportunity to be a part of this endeavor and to serve the citizens of the Great State of Maryland.

Sincerely yours,
R. Michael Clemens
Chairman

RMC: avo

Report Submitted Pursuant To Education Article § 11-503(a) (12)

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**MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE
EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION**

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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THE MISSION OF THE MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION

The primary objective of all fire, rescue, and emergency medical related services is to protect life and property. The Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission (MFRETC) has the responsibility of overseeing education and training activities for Maryland's emergency services personnel.* This is accomplished by creating collaboration among the numerous emergency services systems in the state, by establishing minimum standards, and by promoting high-quality education and training. Created by legislative mandate to be the state-level coordinating agency for the education and training of Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services, the Commission ensures that local jurisdictions, responsible for the delivery of these services to all that reside in the state, have access to the best possible programs to train and educate their personnel.

The MFRETC is a division of the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) under the authority of the Secretary of Higher Education, Dr. James Fielder. Composed of 13 members appointed by the Governor of Maryland, the MFRETC represents the state's various segments of the emergency services. One member represents the general public at large. The Governor designates the Chairman.

The MFRETC provides focus for emergency services state planning, program approval activities, and improved emergency services education and training. Educational institutions that are part of the system include universities, colleges, the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, county service academies, municipal academies, fire departments, and rescue squads. These relationships additionally recognize that the responsibilities of the MFRETC are a part of the postsecondary education and training mission of the State of Maryland.

To meet the mandated duties required of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission, the Commission members and liaisons from other agencies work through a standing committee system with actions subject to MFRETC approval. The MFRETC also has the responsibility of making recommendations to the Secretary regarding any final actions that result in law or regulation and are subject to approval by the Maryland Higher Education Commission or legislative remedy. Through the work of its committees and staff, and in cooperation with fire and emergency services providers and users, the MFRETC strives to carry out this mission.

* Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, Title 11, §§11-501-503, 2014 Replacement Volume. (See Appendix for full text)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission (MFRETC) is a division of the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC). The members are state officials appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. This Commission addressed a variety of issues during State Fiscal Year 2017. Five regular meetings and a retreat were held, as were a number of committee meetings and conference calls. Minutes of the regular meetings are available on the Maryland Higher Education Commission's website, www.mhec.maryland.gov, or upon request.

In 2017, the MFRETC has focused its attention on three primary goals. The first goal is to continue ensuring that the state's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services training and certification protocols are of the highest quality and in accordance with national standards, and that such training is accomplished in the safest possible manner. The second is to coordinate the different components of our emergency services education and training system so that all parts engage efficiently with one another to make the best use of time and resources. Finally, the third goal is to ensure that such education and training is readily attainable by the men and women of Maryland's emergency services to ensure that they stand ready to serve the public.

The opioid overdose epidemic has reached new heights, in Maryland and across the nation. A key topic of discussion throughout the year has been emergency services response to this deepening crisis. In 2017, Governor Hogan established the Inter-Agency Heroin and Opioid Coordinating Council, which was authorized to establish the Maryland Opioid Operational Command Center. Two of the MFRETC's constituent agencies – the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems – play major roles in the operations of the Center. The MFRETC has enabled the individual fire and rescue agencies throughout the State to further coordinate emergency responders' efforts in responding to medical incidents caused by the use of opioids such as overdoses.

As discussed within previous years' reports, the 2015-2016 academic year was the first academic year in which students were eligible for funding through the Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship, formerly the Charles W. Riley Fire and Emergency Medical Services Reimbursement Program. Three years later, the transition from a reimbursement to a scholarship program continues to pose several challenges for recruitment and marketing. Since the scholarship program was implemented, the number of students receiving funding through the scholarship program has been substantially lower than those who had received funding during the previous reimbursement structure. In addition, many students continue to fail to submit all documentation necessary to demonstrate their eligibility. MFRETC intends to work closely with MHEC outreach staff, other state agencies, and local academies and departments to increase awareness and visibility of the program, as well as ensuring that students are aware of and complying with documentation requirements.

In 2014, the State transitioned from using a certification system that was unique to Maryland to utilizing the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians for certification of its first responders, joining 34 other states that recognize this uniform national certification standard. Since that transition, there have been challenges related to alignment of the curriculum with the national exam that resulted in lower passage rates than under the previous system. However, with the hard work of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Institute, the Maryland Institute for

Emergency Medical Services System, the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), and others, passage rates now substantially exceed the national average.

National Registry exam passage rates, July 1, 2016 through January 13, 2017

	# Attempted	Pass 1 st Attempt	%	Pass 3 rd attempt	%
MFRI Totals	253	204	80%	217	86%
National	33,663	24,565	73%	26,947	80%

Unfortunately, one drawback of the new certification system also means that in many jurisdictions class time has increased substantially, which continues to impact recruitment for EMTs. This has been particularly challenging for the volunteer service, which had already been suffering from declining rates of participation. MFRI has implemented a number of changes to its training systems, particularly in implementation of different delivery methods, to help reduce the impact of the new curriculum on student success.

A continuing concern for all emergency medical service responders is prevention of vehicular accidents. In 2014, fire department emergency vehicles nationwide were involved in 14,910 collisions, and motor vehicle accidents represented the second leading cause of line-of-duty deaths. However, locating facilities where emergency services personnel can be trained in the operation of emergency services apparatus in a controlled environment away from the general public continues to present a challenge. The MFRETC’s Driver Training Facility Task Force continues to explore the need for driver training facilities, the existing inventory of such facilities, and what deficiencies may currently exist in driver training. The MFRETC is continuing to assess the feasibility of establishing a Maryland Fire and Rescue Driver Training, Testing, and Research Facility, particularly focusing on the availability of heavy vehicle training facilities.. Commissioners and experts in the field have undertaken consideration of different types of emergency vehicles for training, site acre requirements, administrative building capacities, skill pad/cone courses, and other factors involved in the construction of driver training facilities.

A central component of the Commission’s work is the continual evaluation of emerging issues in the fire and rescue services. During the upcoming year, the MFRETC will be examining ways in which the Commission can further contribute to the education and training of Maryland personnel as the emergency and rescue services continue to evolve and advance.

MFRETC COMMITTEES, MEMBERSHIP, AND CHARGE

The MFRETC continues to pay close attention to the fire, rescue, and emergency medical services training requirements that are necessary to be in compliance with state and national standards, accreditation requirements, and certification systems. In order to do so, the Commission works under a committee system. While evaluation of the current committee structure and missions is currently underway, a summary of the four current committee's activities follows.

Through its membership and committees, the MFRETC continues to serve the fire and emergency services community by cooperating with training academies, training institutions, colleges, universities, county, municipal, and volunteer departments to coordinate the state's emergency services education and training system. In part, this is done through the work of the following MFRETC committees. Committee membership may include individuals who are not members of the MFRETC; these individuals are identified by their affiliation. The work of all who have made contributions is acknowledged and sincerely appreciated. This year's committees included the following:

Executive:

R. Michael Clemens, Chair

Lynn D. Gilroy, Vice Chair

This committee directs, coordinates, and monitors all activities of the MFRETC, acts as liaison to each of the other committees, and serves as the central point of contact for MHEC.

Higher Education:

Kiona Black, Chair
Jennifer Aubert-Utz
John Jerome

Lynn Gilroy, Liaison
John Dulina

This committee reviews the current status and projected need of Maryland's college-level programs in the fire and emergency medical services disciplines. The Higher Education Committee also reviews proposed programs for compatibility with current fire and rescue standards and workforce needs. It also examines the status of state funding for education and training programs. Finally, this Committee oversees the Charles W. Riley Firefighter and Ambulance and Rescue Squad Member Scholarship program. Mr. Riley, the person for whom this program is named, served as chairman of the MFRETC for 14 years and was a past president of the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

Minimum Standards:

Dan Stevens, Chair
Mike Davis (MSFA)

Lynn Gilroy, Liaison
Larry Preston (MFRI)

This committee facilitates the MFRETC's review, development, coordination, and dissemination of state standards, guidelines, protocols, and approval processes for emergency services training. Particular attention is given to any proposed or adopted federal or state standards, and program reviews. This committee also has the responsibility of working with MFRI to update the MICRB Orange Book regulations every 2 years.

Special Projects:

Geoffrey Donahue, Chair

Ron Strobel

Barbara Knippenburg

Bob Cumberland

Mike Clemens, Liaison

Scott Graham

Pat Marlatt (MFRI)

This committee prepares and recommends a plan of action for the MFRETC that will identify and set priorities for meeting the future education and training needs of the state's emergency services training system. This committee encompasses planning, training center enhancements, and weapons of mass destruction/National Incident Management Systems awareness. The Heavy Driver Training Facility Task Force has also worked under the leadership of the Special Projects Committee.

MARYLAND FIRE-RESCUE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMISSION MEMBERS

As previously noted, the members of the MFRETC are state-appointed officials who are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Per statute, the Committee membership consists of six volunteer emergency services personnel or instructors, three emergency services instructors who are career personnel representing the academies, three career personnel who are not instructors, and one member of the general public.

CHAIR Chief R. Michael Clemens
Middletown, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2014

Chief R. Michael Clemens has served as a MFRETC Commissioner since 2002. His start in the fire service began in 1966 with the Mt. Rainier Volunteer Fire Department in Prince George's County, Maryland. Mr. Clemens is a Retired Assistant Chief of the Training Division for the Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service. In that capacity, he was responsible for all County Fire & EMS Training Programs. He is currently a member of the National Capital Region's Type 3 All Hazards Incident Management Team. He is currently the Program Manager for Montgomery County's accreditation program for the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). He was the Fire Service Project Manager for designing and overseeing the new Public Safety Training Academy in Montgomery County, Maryland. In 2017, he was recognized for his vision and design of the new Training site for Public Safety when Montgomery County named the new Fire High-Bay Fire Training Building in recognition of his legacy for the new campus in Gaithersburg, Maryland. He has completed his formal education in Fire Science with Montgomery College and is completing his degree with the University of Maryland University College in Fire Science and Business Management. He is now consulting for Public Safety Projects around the country. He is presently the Chairman of Maryland Fire & Rescue Education and Training Commission. Mr. Clemens represents career emergency services instructors.

VICE CHAIR Captain Lynn D. Gilroy
La Plata, Maryland

Term: 4 Years from July 1, 2014

Captain Lynn D. Gilroy was first appointed to the Commission in 1999. He has been associated with the fire service for over 50 years. Mr. Gilroy is a Member and Treasurer of the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, where he has served since 1992. Mr. Gilroy is a member of the Maryland State Firemen's Association and has been involved in that organization in a variety of capacities for more than thirteen years. He is the past president of the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association. Additionally, he is a MICRB-certified State Emergency Services Instructor, and is a Field Instructor for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. Mr. Gilroy retired from the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority Fire Department at Reagan National Airport for whom he worked as a Captain and shift training officer. Mr. Gilroy recently served on the town council for La Plata, Maryland, as Councilman for Ward 3. He is presently the Vice Chair of the Maryland Fire & Rescue Education and Training Commission, and was reelected for an additional term extending from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Mr. Gilroy represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

Assistant Chief Jennifer Aubert-Utz
Parkville, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2015

Assistant Chief Jennifer Aubert-Utz was appointed to the Commission in 2016. Chief Utz began her fire service career as a volunteer EMT in Carroll County, Maryland in 1992. She was hired by the Baltimore County Fire Department in February 2000 as a Firefighter/EMT and currently serves as an Assistant Chief. Prior to her most recent promotion, Chief Utz served as the training chief for Baltimore County. She is a certified Maryland State Emergency Services Instructor, as well as an adjunct instructor at the National Fire Academy. Chief Utz's education includes a Master of Science degree (2012), and a Bachelor of Science degree (2011); both in Management and with an emphasis in Public Safety Leadership from the Johns Hopkins University. She is also a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program (2015). Chief Utz also serves on the Maryland Advisory Council to the Center for the Study of Health Effects of Fire. Ms. Aubert-Utz represents career emergency services personnel.

Kiona L. Black
Thurmont, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2016

Instructor Kiona Black was appointed to the MFRETC in 2016. Ms. Black currently serves as an instructor for the Maryland Fire-Rescue Institute, acts as a reviewer for the EMT Refresher curriculum and Instructor Evaluator, and mentors new instructors. In addition, Ms. Black continues to serve as a part-time emergency services instructor for the Frederick County Division of Fire and Rescue Services and developed and coordinated the implementation of a new online training and records program for the Department. Ms. Black is a life member of the Citizens Truck Company in Frederick, Maryland, where she is a Firefighter/EMT. Additionally with the company she has served as an Executive Board Member, Secretary, Lieutenant of Training, and the company representative to the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association. Since 1989, Ms. Black has been a member of the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company, where she has acted as a Firefighter/EMT. During her time with Walkersville, she has additionally served as Membership Committee Chair, Lieutenant of Training, and Assistant Secretary. Ms. Black has also been actively involved with the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, having served as a company representative, Assistant Secretary, Secretary, and 1st Vice President. Ms. Black represents career emergency services instructors.

Chief Robert P. Cumberland, Jr.
Westminster, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2015

Chief Robert P. Cumberland, Jr. was first appointed to serve on the MFRETC in 1991. He is a 53-year active volunteer member of the Westminster Fire Engine & Hose Co. #1. He has served as Chief, Assistant Chief, Lieutenant, Vice President, and President. Mr. Cumberland is currently serving as President of the Westminster Fire Engine & Hose Co. #1. Mr. Cumberland served as President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association from 1987-88. He served as Director for MSFA to the National Volunteer Fire Council, which he served on from 1988 to 2003. Mr. Cumberland also serves as the Out-of-State Coordinator and as a member of the federal legislative committee for MSFA. He is a past President of the Maryland Fire Chief's Association, served as Chairman of the Presidents Board of Advisors for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, and serves as a member of the Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy. In February 2014, Mr. Cumberland was appointed as a Delegate representing the Cumberland Valley Volunteer

Fireman's Association to the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Board. He is currently serving as Director for the Cumberland Valley Fire Volunteer Fireman's Association. He continues to serve on numerous other MSFA and Carroll County Firemen's Association Committees. Mr. Cumberland represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

Captain Geoffrey L. Donahue
Parkville, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2013*

Captain Geoffrey L. Donahue was appointed to the Commission in 2009. He is the Chief of the Emergency Response Division of the Maryland Department of the Environment. He also serves as a volunteer firefighter/EMT and rescue technician with the Providence Volunteer Fire Company in Towson. He additionally works part-time as a field instructor for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, teaching classes in firefighting, hazardous materials response and technical rescue, including trench rescue and structural collapse rescue. Mr. Donahue represents volunteer emergency services instructors.

Lieutenant John E. Dulina
Middle River, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2014

Lieutenant John E. Dulina was appointed to the Commission in 2002. He has served as a volunteer firefighter and officer for many years with Middle River Volunteer Fire Company of the Baltimore County Fire Department. Mr. Dulina is also an active member of the Maryland State Firemen's Association. He has been a member of many fire-service related committees. He currently works for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency as a Regional Administrator. Mr. Dulina represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

Chief Scott Graham
Silver Spring, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2016

Chief Graham's first term on the Commission began in 2016. He is currently the Director of Emergency Preparedness and Workforce Wellness for Holy Cross Health in Montgomery County, Maryland. Prior to his current position, Mr. Graham served in the Montgomery County, Md. Fire and Rescue Service, retiring as an Assistant Chief in February 2014 after 26 ½ years of service. During his career, he served as a Maryland. Cardiac Respiratory Technician, Nationally Registered Paramedic, firefighter, MICRB Level II certified fire instructor, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support practitioner, and was instrumental in creating both the 12 Lead electrocardiography and intraosseous programs for pre hospital providers. Mr. Graham was a member of the Montgomery County Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue Team, responding to numerous national man-made and natural disasters including the events of 9/11 and Hurricanes Sandy and Katrina. Mr. Graham served on the FEMA National Response System Advisory Board and was selected as the East Coast Task Force Leader representing the nine east coast US&R task forces. He served as the Executive Assistant Chief to two fire chiefs and as the department's PIO. He is a member of IAFF Local 1664. Prior to relocating to Montgomery County, Mr. Graham served as both a volunteer and career member of the Ocean City Fire Department. Mr. Graham served as a member of the MIEMSS Board from 2003 – 2009. He continues his fire service experience serving as the Assistant Chief of the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department and is a past member of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Graham represents the general public.

Deputy Chief John Jerome
Westminster, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2015

Deputy Chief John Jerome was appointed to the Commission in October 2011. He currently serves as Deputy Fire Chief and Department Executive Officer for the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services. He previously served as the bureau chief responsible for education and training, overseeing the planning, curriculum development, and delivery of all training for the career and volunteer members of the organization. He has been an instructor for EMT, paramedic, fire, and fire service management courses since 1996. Prior to beginning his career in Howard County in 1993, he served for five years as a volunteer firefighter/paramedic for the Ellicott City Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Jerome's education includes a Post-Graduate Certificate in distance education (2013) and instructional systems development (2015), and a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and emergency health services management (1991). He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program (2008), and has been a paramedic for 25 years. Mr. Jerome represents career emergency services personnel.

Captain John W. Kisser
Halethorpe, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2013*

Captain John W. Kisser was initially appointed to the Commission in October 2011. Mr. Kisser retired at the rank of Captain in 2015 after more than 34 years with the Baltimore City Fire Department. While with Baltimore City, Mr. Kisser spent much of his career helping to establish and train the Special Operations units. Mr. Kisser was also previously assigned to the Baltimore City Fire Academy for five years as an instructor. He has been an MICRB-certified instructor since 1997. Mr. Kisser continues as a part-time instructor for MFRI, and served as secretary to the Maryland Council of Fire-Rescue Academies for 4 years. Mr. Kisser represents career emergency services personnel.

Chief Barbara A. Knippenburg
Frostburg, Maryland

Term: 4 Years from July 1, 2016

Chief Barbara Knippenburg was initially appointed to the MFRETC in 2009. After completing her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at Frostburg State University, Ms. Knippenburg taught in the Allegany County School System for over 30 years. She began volunteering in the emergency services in 1978, when she joined the newly formed Georges Creek Ambulance Service, serving as a medic and chief officer for many years. After the completion of her fire training, she became a member of Midland Fire Company, where she has served in numerous offices including Assistant Chief and Treasurer. Currently, she is EMS Chief and Training Officer. In 1990, she became an instructor with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, teaching Rescue, Fire Fighting, EMT, and Instructor Trainer classes. Active in the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Ms. Knippenburg is a past President and currently serves as Editor, producing the Association's monthly newsletter. In the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA), she has served on several committees and has been honored with the Hall of Fame, Josiah Hunt Award, and Firefighter of the Year. She has served on the Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board since 1998, representing MSFA. Ms. Knippenburg represents volunteer emergency services instructors.

Chief Daniel J. Stevens
La Plata, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2013*

Chief Dan Stevens was initially appointed to the MFRETC in 2001. A 50-year volunteer firefighter, he is currently a member of the Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department, Charles County where he is a life member and an active riding member. Mr. Stevens has served his company as, chief, assistant chief, captain, and chairman of the board of directors. He is currently Coordinator of MFRI's Southern Maryland Regional Training Board in La Plata. He also serves as a member of the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association and EMS Association where he is Chairman of the County Training Committee. Mr. Stevens serves or has served on several committees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association. He serves on the Executive Committee and has served on several others including; Safety, Training, and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund. Mr. Stevens is an MICRB-certified State Emergency Services Instructor and works as a field instructor for the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute. Professionally, Mr. Stevens retired as the Director of the Tobacco and Peanut Analysis Group with the United States Department of Agriculture and was responsible for the management of both programs. Mr. Stevens holds an Associate Degree in Business from St. Mary's College of Maryland, a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Maryland and a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics with minors in statistics and finance from Texas A&M University. Mr. Stevens represents volunteer emergency services personnel.

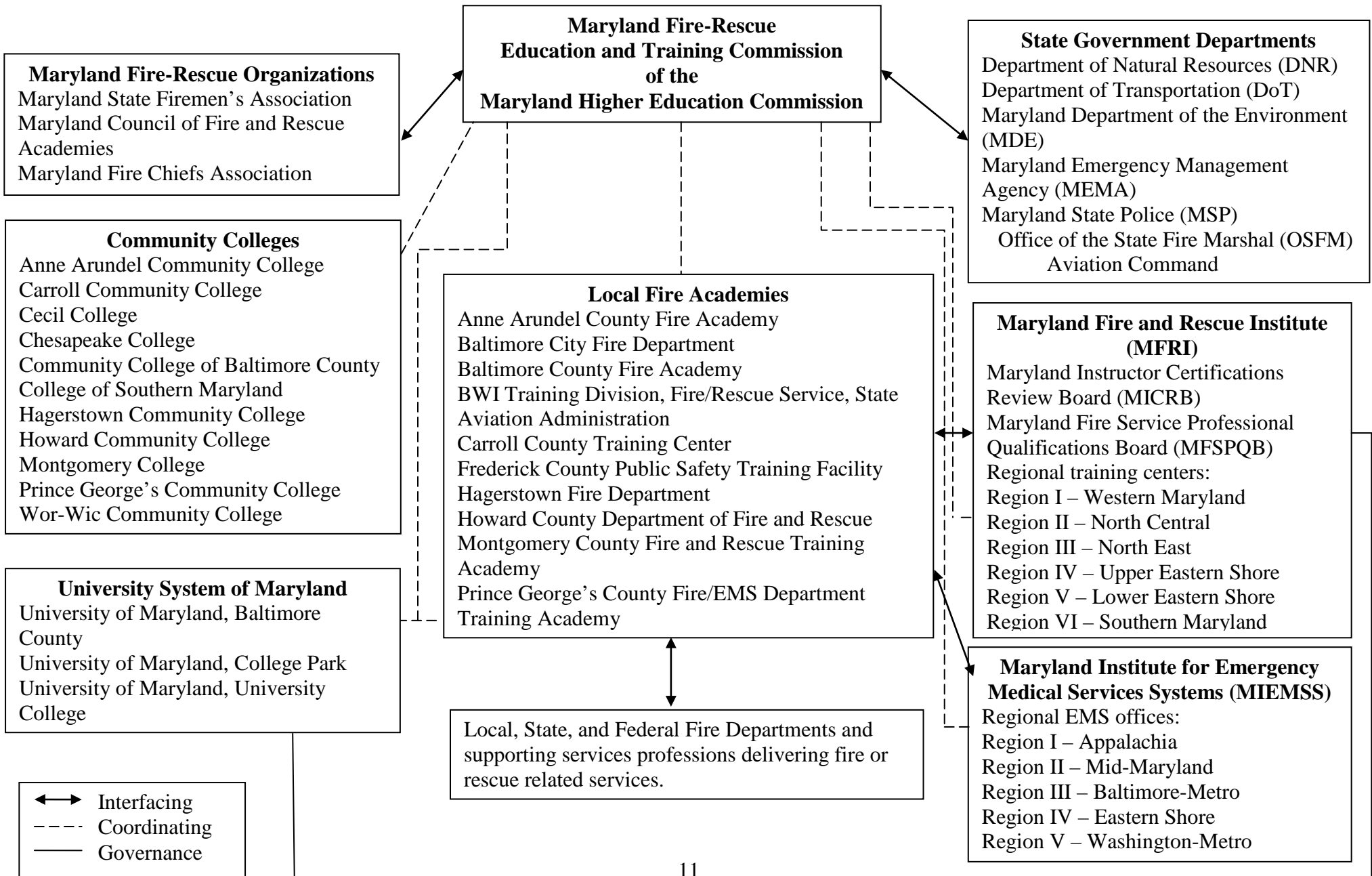
Deputy Chief Reinhold C. Strobel
Glen Burnie, Maryland

Term: 4 years from July 1, 2013*

Deputy Chief Reinhold C. Strobel was appointed to the MFRETC in 2010. Chief Strobel's experience spans over 40 years, beginning in 1973 with the Horsham Fire Company in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. As a Deputy Chief for the Anne Arundel County Fire Department, Chief Strobel oversaw several divisions of the department including Training and Research, Logistics, Fire Marshal's Office, Personnel and Budget Management. In his 36 years with Anne Arundel County, he has worked in Fire & EMS Operations, Fire & EMS Training, Communications and the Office of Emergency Management. Chief Strobel holds a B.S. Degree in Fire Science from the University of Maryland, University College and has been awarded the designation of "Chief Fire Officer" by the Center for Public Safety Excellence. Mr. Strobel represents career emergency services personnel. Deputy Chief Strobel retired January 1, 2016 after 36 years of service. Chief Strobel is a Life Member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Chief Strobel also serves as a member of the Maryland Fire Rescue Memorial Foundation.

* The terms of Commissioners Donahue, Kisser, Stevens, Strobel expire on July 1, 2017. The Commission thanks them for their service and their continued dedication to improving the fire-rescue education training system in Maryland.

MARYLAND'S FIRE-RESCUE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING SYSTEM



The Maryland fire-rescue education training system involves a number of different agencies and other entities. All formal fire, rescue, and emergency medical services (EMS) training offered in Maryland is conducted by instructors who are certified by either the Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board (MICRB) or by the Maryland Institute of Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) for advanced EMS training. The training programs offered meet or exceed applicable state requirements and/or national model standards. The National Fire Protection Association's Professional Qualifications Standards are the primary standards adopted by reference for fire-rescue service training, and EMS training standards are set by state law. Those successfully completing fire-rescue training are eligible to be certified by the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (MFSPQB). Emergency medical technicians/paramedics must be certified or licensed by MIEMSS; MIEMSS additionally approves all EMS programs offered in the state. The MFSPQB accredits all fire-rescue training academies and institutes.

Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI), University of Maryland.

The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute of the University of Maryland is one of the nation's top institutions of its kind. The nature and complexity of the issues and situations facing our dedicated emergency services providers on a daily basis continues to challenge them to train, exercise, and stand ready to respond to all calls for assistance. Through the industry of its staff, its regional training centers, and the monetary support of the University of Maryland and the state, the MFRI excels in providing this much-needed training at no cost to Maryland's fire and rescue services personnel. MFRI serves as a cornerstone of the state's emergency services education and training system.
www.mfri.org.

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS).

MIEMSS is a coordinated statewide network including volunteer and career EMS providers, medical and nursing personnel, communications, transportation systems, trauma and specialty care centers, and emergency departments. Among its many responsibilities, MIEMSS conducts and supports EMS educational programs and provides certification and licensure for all prehospital EMS personnel, including EMT-B (Basic Life Support), EMT-A (Advanced Life Support) and EMT-P (Paramedic). MIEMSS has also largely overseen the transition to National Registry certification, which makes Maryland one of the 46 states that utilize the National Registry for certifying its EMS providers. In addition to creating a national standard for competency, Registry certification also allows for reciprocity between states.

www.miemss.org

Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board (MICRB).

This Board, created by MFRETC, is promulgated under authority of the Code of Maryland Regulations to certify fire, rescue, and up to the EMT-B level, emergency medical, state instructors and instructor trainers. Every four years, the MICRB is required to complete a regulatory review of its certification protocols and updated its regulations to incorporate the most current national standards. The MICRB will next review these protocols in 2020.

www.mfri.org/cgi-bin/MICRB_Main.cgi.

Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (MSFPQB).

Also created by MFRETC, this Board is a recognized leader in the certification of individuals with fire service training and qualifications. Throughout the nation, Maryland's fire service certification system is the "model" system. The Board's concept and structure as a voluntary certification system with state-accredited local Accredited Training Review Agencies has been assessed and emulated by a number of other fire service organizations, both nationally and internationally. Both career and

volunteer personnel are certified as professional to the same standards. These individuals have access to an extensive number of different certification levels, ranging from firefighter to fire officer. This Board is nationally accredited by the National Professional Qualifications Board to offer 51 levels of certification and by the International Fire Service Accreditations Congress to offer 29 levels. Maryland also continues to be a national leader in the number of certifications issued. 2017 represented the 31st anniversary of the MFSPQB's involvement in voluntary fire service certification in Maryland.

www.mfri.org/mfspqb/

Maryland's fire, rescue, and emergency medical services personnel: The members and staff of MFRETC recognize that it is through the dedication and will of the men and women of the emergency services, that critically needed fire, rescue, and emergency medical services are successfully provided in Maryland. These men and women are to be recognized for their efforts and commended for their work.

**MARYLAND COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC FIRE AND EMS PROGRAMS**

Anne Arundel Community College

Fire Management, Associate Degree
EMT-P, Certificate and Associate Degree
EMT-I, Certificate

Carroll Community College

EMT-P, Associate Degree

Cecil College

EMT-P, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Service Technology, Associate Degree

Chesapeake College

Emergency Medical Services, Certificate and Associate Degree
EMT-P, Certificate

College of Southern Maryland

EMT-P, Certificate
Emergency Medical Services, Associate Degree
Fire Science Technology, Associate Degree

Community College of Baltimore County

Emergency Medical Tech, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Protection Specialist, Certificate
Fire Protection Tech, Certificate
Fire Service Management, Certificate

Frederick Community College

Emergency Management, Certificate
Emergency Management Statewide, Associate Degree
Fire Service Administration, Associate Degree

Hagerstown Community College

Emergency Medical Technology – Paramedic, Certificate
Emergency Medical Technician, Certificate
Paramedic Emergency Services, Associate Degree
Paramedical Emergency Service: EMT-I to EMT-P Bridge, Certificate

Howard Community College

EMT-P, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Science and Leadership, Associate Degree (NEW PROGRAM)

Montgomery College

Emergency Preparedness Management, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire and Emergency Service Management, Certificate
Fire and Emergency Service Management Statewide, Associate Degree

Fire and Arson Investigation Certificate Statewide, Certificate
Fire Prevention Technology Statewide, Certificate and Associate Degree
Fire Protection Technology Statewide, Certificate and Associate Degree

Prince George's Community College

Fire Science, Associate Degree

Wor-Wic College

Emergency Medical Services, Certificate and Associate Degree

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Emergency Health Services, Bachelor's and Master's Degrees

Emergency Management, Certificate (Post-Baccalaureate)

University of Maryland, College Park

Fire Protection Engineering, Bachelor's and Master's Degrees

University of Maryland University College

Public Safety Administration, Bachelor's Degree – Fire Service Administration minor

Public Safety Administration, Bachelor's Degree – Emergency Management minor

LOCAL FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES ACADEMIES

Anne Arundel County Fire Academy

415 Maxwell Frye Road
Millersville, MD 21108
(410) 222-8360

Baltimore City Fire Department

Frank J. Trenner Fire Academy
6720 Pulaski Highway
Baltimore, MD 21237
(410) 396-9984-85

and

Public Safety and Training Facility (EMS)
3500 W. Northern Parkway
Baltimore MD 21215
(410) 396-1005

Baltimore County Fire Academy

802 York Road
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 887-7523

Carroll County Public Safety Training Center

50 Kate Wagner Rd.
Westminster, MD 21157
(410) 848-1488

Frederick County Public Safety Training Facility

Professional Services Bureau
5370 Public Safety Place
Frederick, MD 21704
(301) 600-2282

Hagerstown Fire Department Training Academy

25 West Church Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
(301) 790-2476

Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue

James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center
2200 Scott Wheeler Dr.
Marriottsville, Maryland 21104
(410) 313-1361

Montgomery County Public Safety Training Academy

8751 Snouffer School Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
(240) 773-8200

Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department Training Academy
9190 Commo Road
Cheltenham, MD 20623
(301) 856-2940

**MARYLAND FIRE AND RESCUE INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
(MFRI)**

4500 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, MD 20742

DirectorSteven T. Edwards
Special Operations Assistant Director.....F. Patrick Marlatt
Field Operation Assistant Director.....Lawrence L. Preston
Headquarters (College Park) (301) 226-9900
Western Maryland Regional Training Center..... (301) 729-0431
North Central Office..... (301) 829-2020
North East Regional Training Center..... (410) 676-5409
Upper Eastern Shore Regional Office..... (410) 758-2112
Lower Eastern Shore Regional Training Center (410) 749-0313
Southern Maryland Regional Training Center..... (301) 934-2600

**MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEMS
(MIEMSS)**

653 West Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
(410) 706-3994

Executive Director

Dr. Kevin Seaman

Regional EMS Offices & Administrators:

Region I – Appalachia

Allegany, Garrett

Casselman Ventures Bldg. #106
P.O. Box 34
Grantsville, MD 21536
Tel: (301) 895-5934
Fax: (301) 895-3618

Region II – Mid-Maryland

Frederick, Washington

201 S. Cleveland Ave., Suite 211
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Tel: (301) 791-2366 or (301) 416-7249
Fax: (301) 791-9231

Region III – Baltimore-Metro

Anne Arundel, Balto. City

Baltimore Co, Howard

653 W. Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
Tel: (410) 706-3996
Fax: (410) 706-8530

Region IV – Eastern Shore

*Caroline, Cecil Kent, Dorchester
Carroll, Harford, Queen Anne's, Talbot
Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester*

01 Bay Street Plaza, Suite 306
Easton, MD 21601
Tel: (410) 822-1799
Fax: (410) 822-0861

Region V – Washington-Metro

Calvert, Charles, Montgomery

Prince George's, St. Mary's

Marie Warner-Crosson
5111 Berwyn Road, Suite 102
College Park, MD 20740
Tel: (301) 474-1481
Fax: (301) 513-5941

Education & Certification

Rae Oliveiera
Director, Licensing & Certification
Jim Brown
Director, Education Support Services
653 W. Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-1536
Tel: (410) 706-3666 or
1-800-762-7157
Fax: (410) 706-2367

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX

ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND Education Article

Subtitle 5. Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission

§11-501 Definitions

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Commission” means the Maryland Fire–Rescue Education and Training Commission.
- (c) “Emergency services” means fire, rescue, and ambulance services.
- (d) “Schools” means the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, any emergency services training academy operated by any city, county, or municipal government, any community college offering emergency services education and training courses, any public school offering emergency services education and training courses, and any private or governmental institution or body providing emergency services education and training courses.

§11-502 Established; members; officers; meetings.

- (a) There is a Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission in the Maryland Higher Education Commission.
- (b)
 - (1) The Commission consists of 13 members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Of the members:
 - (i) Each shall be qualified to deal with the matters within the authority of the Commission;
 - (ii) Six shall be volunteer emergency services personnel or instructors;
 - (iii) Three shall be emergency services instructors who are career personnel representing the academies;
 - (iv) Three shall be career emergency services personnel who are not instructors; and
 - (v) One shall be a member of the general public.
 - (2) Each member serves for a term of 4 years and until a successor is appointed and qualifies. These terms are staggered as required by the terms of the members serving on July 1, 1978.
 - (3) A member appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term serves only for the remainder of that term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.
 - (4) A member may be removed by the Governor:
 - (i) For neglect of duty; or
 - (ii) If the Governor believes the member’s continued membership is not in the public interest.
 - (5) Each member of the Commission:
 - (i) Serves without compensation; but
 - (ii) Is entitled to reimbursement for expenses in accordance with the Standard State Travel Regulations.

- (c) (1) The Governor shall designate one of the members of the Commission as the chairman of the Commission. The chairman serves at the pleasure of the Governor.
- (2) Each year, the Commission shall elect a vice chairman and any other officer it requires.
- (3) The Commission:
 - (i) Shall meet at least once every 2 months;
 - (ii) May meet at any other time the chairman designates; and
 - (iii) May adopt rules for the conduct of its meetings.
- (4) A quorum consists of 7 members, one of whom shall be the chairman or vice chairman.

§11-503 Duties; staff services.

- (a) Subject to the authority of the Secretary, the Commission shall:
 - (1) Keep minutes of its meetings and any other records it considers necessary;
 - (2) Cooperate with and assist schools in coordinating and improving all emergency services education and training activities;
 - (3) Cooperate with the University of Maryland in developing a program for accrediting emergency services instructors;
 - (4) Consult with emergency services instructors and personnel to develop minimum uniform education and training standards for emergency services instructors, personnel, and schools;
 - (5) Cooperate with schools to help standardize course content and reciprocity of college credits for emergency services education and training;
 - (6) Cooperate with appropriate government agencies to develop and maintain a current master plan for emergency services education and training;
 - (7) Cooperate with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute to develop and operate a system for collecting, analyzing, and exchanging information on emergency services education and training;
 - (8) Encourage, promote, and review new techniques, methods, and procedures for emergency services;
 - (9) Cooperate with and review material from other states and federal agencies on emergency services education and training;
 - (10) Recommend to the Secretary rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes and objectives of the Commission;
 - (11) Review any proposed or adopted national standards or certification programs for emergency services and recommend to the Secretary the actions that should be taken regarding them;
 - (12) Prepare an annual report on the activities of the Commission to the Secretary, the Governor, and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly; and
 - (13) Provide a place of storage for the records of the Commission and the original Governor's Commission on Fire Services.
- (b) The Maryland Higher Education Commission shall provide staff services for the Commission.