

Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs

Section 3: Board of Directors Reports



**Mid-Summer
2026**



**Alabama Association
Of Fire Chiefs**

**PO Box 567
Phil Campbell, AL 35581**



July 15, 2026

President Tracy D. Thornton
Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs
151 Hutcheson Drive
Phil Campbell, AL 35581

Board of Directors and Members of the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs:

It has been a great honor to serve as President of the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs, and I am excited about the opportunities ahead in 2026–2027. The leadership of the Executive Committee and the dedication they demonstrate each year truly make the AAFC an exceptional organization.

I am hopeful that this year's Mid-Summer Conference will be one of the best ever. We have an outstanding lineup of exceptional speakers each day. I would like to sincerely thank Columbia Southern University and the Alabama Fire College for partnering with us to make this conference possible. I would also like to thank all our wonderful sponsors and vendors for their continued support. Without our vendors and sponsors our conference would never reach the level of excellence that it is today. I would also like to thank the City of Orange Beach and Orange Beach Fire Department for their assistance and support in helping this conference run smoothly each year.

Below is a list of activities in which I participated while representing the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs:

- Attended Mid-Winter Conference planning meetings
- Attended the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs Mid-Winter Conference (2026)
- Attended Alabama Fire College briefings
- Attended North Alabama Fire Chiefs Association meetings
- Attended Mid-Summer Conference planning meetings
- Attended the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs Mid-Summer Conference (2026)
- Attended Alabama Fire College Personnel Standards and Education Commission meeting



Alabama Association
Of Fire Chiefs

PO Box 567
Phil Campbell, AL 35581



Sincerely,


Tracy D. Thornton
Fire Chief, Retired
Decatur Fire/Rescue



IRONDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF

CHIEF JOSHUA MCDANIEL
5191 PINE WHISPERS DRIVE
IRONDALE, AL 35210

July 2026

Board of Directors and Members of the AAFC,

It continues to be an honor to serve as the 1st Vice President of the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs. I appreciate the opportunity to serve alongside the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and our membership as we continue working to advance and strengthen the fire service across Alabama.

Below is a summary of my activities representing the AAFC since the 2026 Mid-Winter Conference:

1. Participated in planning meetings for the 2026 AAFC Summer Conference, assisting with conference planning and preparation.
2. Continued to serve on the AAFC Mutual Aid Consortium (AAFC-MAC) Committee, supporting statewide coordination, mutual aid, and preparedness efforts.
3. Represented the AAFC in Montgomery on several occasions during the 2026 legislative session regarding legislation impacting Alabama's fire service.
4. Remained actively engaged with the Alabama Joint Fire Council (AJFC) throughout the year, representing and supporting the interests of the AAFC and Alabama's fire service.
5. Continued to attend and participate in regional fire chiefs' meetings, including continued involvement with the Central Alabama Fire Chiefs Association (CAFCA) while serving as Past President.
6. Officially launched and implemented the AAFC mobile app, which was utilized for its first association conference during the 2026 Mid-Winter Conference. Since that time, the app has continued to serve as an important communication tool for distributing association news, legislative information, conference updates, and other important information to our membership.

Over the period from January 12 through July 13, 2026, the AAFC mobile app recorded more than **134,000 total interactions**. The highest level of activity occurred during the Mid-Winter Conference, with nearly 55,000 interactions recorded during conference week. Excluding the conference week and the current partial week of July 13, the app averaged more than **3,150 interactions per week**. Continued weekly engagement throughout the year demonstrates the app's value as an ongoing communication and information-sharing platform for the association.

7. Remained actively involved in planning for the 2027 AAFC Mid-Winter Conference, including efforts to secure a new location for the conference. The 2027 Mid-Winter Conference will be held at the Finley Center in Hoover. I look forward to continuing to work with the Executive Committee and conference planning team as we prepare for this transition and continue to enhance the conference experience for our membership.

I appreciate the continued trust placed in me and remain committed to serving the AAFC, supporting our membership, and helping move the association forward. I look forward to continuing our work together to strengthen Alabama's fire service statewide.

Respectfully,



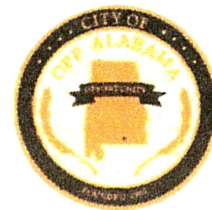
Josh McDaniel
1st Vice President
Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs



Opp Fire Department

200 North Main Street / PO Box 610 Opp, Alabama 36467

Cory Spurlin - Fire Chief



July 13, 2026

President Tracy Thornton
Alabama Association of Fire Chief's
151 Hutcheson Drive
Phil Campbell, Alabama 35581

President Thornton and Members of the AAFC:

It has been an honor to serve as the Second Vice President of the Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve alongside the Executive Committee and our membership in Alabama.

Below is a summary of the activities that I have participated in representing the AAFC:

- Attended the Mid-Winter Conference and Board Meeting in Hoover.
- Participated in the planning and venue change of the 2027 Mid-Winter Conference.
- Attended all the SEAFCA Meetings.
- Participated in some Alabama Fire College Briefings.
- Attended FDIC in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Attended the AFC Pre-Consumption PT Meeting in Prattville.

I am excited to continue serving the AAFC and I look forward to serving with each of you to strengthen the fire service in the Great State of Alabama.

Sincerely,

Cory Spurlin
Fire Chief
City of Opp



OPELIKA FIRE DEPARTMENT

D. Shane Boyd – Fire Chief

604 Avenue B
Opelika, Alabama 36803-0266
(334) 705-5300



July 17th, 2026

President Tracy Thornton
Alabama Association of Fire Chief's
151 Hutcheson Dr.
Phil Campbell, AL 35581

President Thornton and Members of the AAFC:

It is an honor to serve as Immediate Past President in 2026 and to have been part of the Board the past few years of the Alabama Fire Chief's Association. I'm excited about the opportunities in the future and the direction of the association moving forward.

Below I have listed some of the activities that I participated in representing the AAFC:

1. Attended the AAFC Winter Conference in 2026
2. Participated in weekly Alabama Fire College briefings.
3. Attended one Alabama Fire College Commission meeting.
4. Attended AFC Regional Training Center meeting.
5. Attended multiple SEAFCA meetings
6. Served on the Alabama Joint Fire Chiefs Commission with multiple visits to Montgomery to further our legislative agenda.
7. Partnered with the AFC on a PT recruit school program.

Sincerely,

D. Shane Boyd

Fire Chief
Opelika Fire Department



Rocky Ridge Fire District

2911 Metropolitan Way
Birmingham, AL 35243
Main: 205.822.0532
Fax: 205.978.9876

ISO CLASS 1

17 July 2026

Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs
Attn: Chief Thornton

Re: Treasurer Report

Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs

Financial Statements

Account balance for June 30, 2026

Bank	As of	Balance
Regions Bank - Checking	06-30-2026	\$217,286.33
TYATFP - Checking	06-30-2026	\$12,467.00
APCO C.U.	06-30-2026	\$5,829.70
APCO C.D.	06-30-2026	\$228,384.65
Total of all accounts		\$463,967.68

Best regards,

Jon A. Lord



**MADISON FIRE & RESCUE
FIRE CHIEF BRANDY WILLIAMS
101 MILL ROAD MADISON, AL 35758
OFFICE 256-464-8421**



July 16, 2026

Re: NAFCA Summer Report

President Thornton and AAFC Members:

North Alabama Fire Chief's Association (NAFCA) meets the 2nd Thursday of every month. We currently have 43 members from 14 departments and 2 businesses. Average attendance is 10-20 people.

Current officers are: President – Brandy Williams (Madison), 1st Vice President Brian Walls (Guntersville), and Secretary/Treasurer Wade Buckner (Southside).

Primary NAFCA contact for the Mutual Aid Consortium is Chief Brian Walls with Guntersville and backup is Chief Brandy Williams with Madison.

A few of us attended CFSI in April. Due to inclement weather and flight delays, a few did not make it. We had good meetings and hit several hot topics such as Apparatus Costs/Delivery, Reefer Trucks, AFG Grant funding, NFA, etc.

Discussed the Pre-Consumption Training Program as a group and listened to concerns that will be considered in decisions going forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy Williams

Brandy Williams, NAFCA President



RICHARD HARVEY
PRESIDENT



TURN YOUR ATTENTION
TO FIRE PREVENTION

Central Alabama Fire Chiefs Association

2026 Annual Summary

During 2026, the Central Alabama Fire Chiefs Association (CAFCA) remained actively engaged in regional leadership, statewide advocacy, EMS sustainability efforts, professional development, and charitable outreach. CAFCA continued to serve as a collaborative forum for chiefs across Central Alabama while supporting broader AAFC priorities.

Leadership & Governance

CAFCA maintained consistent monthly meetings throughout the year with strong participation from member departments, vendors, and partner agencies. The association closed 2026 in a sound financial position and successfully transitioned leadership for 2027, ensuring organizational continuity and stability.

CAFCA also continued coordination with AAFC, SEAFCA, AFC, the Mutual Aid Consortium (MAC), and state partners to align local efforts with statewide initiatives.

CAFCA in conjunction with the AAFC was able to obtain a written confirmation from the State Attorney Generals office for the expanded use of Opioid Settlement funds.

Legislative & Advocacy Engagement

CAFCA maintained an active role in monitoring and shaping statewide legislative issues affecting the fire service and EMS, with multiple members making regular trips to Montgomery to lobby for the following initiatives:

- Firefighter cancer and occupational disease
- Firefighter disability
- Statewide Food Truck Inspection program
- EMS reimbursement, Treat-in-Place policy, and Medicaid UPL sustainability
- BCBS/EMS payment discussions and antitrust considerations
- Proposed Pre-Consumption Physical Fitness Policy



RICHARD HARVEY
PRESIDENT



TURN YOUR ATTENTION
TO FIRE PREVENTION

CAFCA supported statewide advocacy efforts at the National level through coordinated legislative tracking, planning for a “Day on the Hill,” and participation in federal advocacy planning tied to the CFSI Washington, D.C. initiative. The association took a strategic approach to legislation, supporting bills that advanced the fire service while deliberately opposing or disengaging from proposals that presented legal or operational risk.

EMS Leadership & Coordination

EMS remained a major focus area in 2026. CAFCA’s EMS Committee provided regular updates on:

- State and regional EMS policy changes
- Changes to Alabama EMS Protocols
- Act 2026-349 reimbursement outcomes
- Alabama Rural Health Transformation Program (ARHTP)
- SEMCC coordination and EMS Conference engagement
- Regional Naloxone Procurement Program

CAFCA served as a conduit between state EMS leadership and local departments, ensuring timely dissemination of information and consistent messaging across the region.

Training & Professional Development

CAFCA supported firefighter training and leadership development through:

- Promotion and support of regional training opportunities
- CAFCA-hosted training from Floyd Wise with Combat Ready Fire
- Coordination with the Alabama Fire College on curriculum and certification updates
- Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) Quality Improvement Workshop

These efforts reinforced CAFCA’s role in strengthening operational readiness and leadership capacity across Central Alabama.



RICHARD HARVEY
PRESIDENT



TURN YOUR ATTENTION
TO FIRE PREVENTION

Charity & Community Outreach

CAFCA's charitable mission continued to expand in 2026. Through the CAFCA Charity account and Cook Team, the association supported or promoted numerous firefighter-focused and community events, including:

- *Answering the Call* first responder benefit event
- Fire Explorer Weekend
- Blount, St. Clair and Walker County Junior Fire Academies
- AMAS Full Scale Exercise in Prattville
- First Responders Banquet
- Guns N' Hoses Cookoff
- Morris Blue Spoon Chili Cook-Off
- Cahaba Que Tailgate Challenge to benefit Breast Cancer Research
- Regional firefighter fundraisers and memorial golf tournaments

CAFCA achieved 501(c)(3) charitable status and approved reinvestment into charity operations, including equipment and logistical support, positioning the organization for sustained charitable impact in future years.

CAFCA partnered with the Alabama Key Club for a community project for their state conference.

State & National Engagement

CAFCA members participated in state and national forums addressing:

- NFPA standards development and firefighter safety
- Emerging construction and wildfire challenges
- Research related to EV and battery storage hazards

These efforts ensured Central Alabama fire chiefs remained informed and represented in discussions shaping the future of the fire service.



RICHARD HARVEY
PRESIDENT



TURN YOUR ATTENTION
TO FIRE PREVENTION

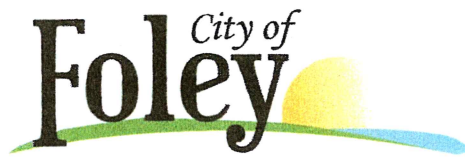
Summary

In 2026, CAFCA demonstrated strong leadership, responsible advocacy, growing charitable impact, and meaningful engagement in EMS and firefighter safety issues. The association continues to support AAFC's mission by strengthening communication, collaboration, and professionalism across Central Alabama's fire service.

Respectfully,

Richard Harvey

President Richard Harvey, Fire Chief Springville Fire
Vice President Kendric Hughley, Fire Chief Bessemer Fire
Past President Josh McDaniel, Fire Chief Irondale Fire
Secretary Justin R. McKenzie, Fire Chief Fultondale Fire
Treasurer Brandon Broadhead, Fire Chief Homewood Fire



120 West Verbena Avenue
Foley, Alabama 36535
(251) 943-1266
Fax (251) 943-7432
www.cityoffoley.org

July 24, 2026

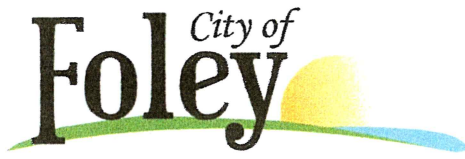
Tracy Thornton, President

Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs

Re: Report to AAFC E-Board - Southwestern Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs

Chief Thornton,

I am writing to report on activity of the Southwestern Alabama Association of Fire Chiefs since our mid-winter AAFC conference in February. We met in-person for our regularly scheduled meeting on March 26th at the Baldwin County 911 Center and had a good number of career fire departments represented along with 911 and several vendors. This meeting date was postponed from the 19th due to CFSI. The meeting and meal were sponsored by Sunbelt Fire. We had good discussion regarding the very successful mid-winter conference, as most of our members had attended. We discussed the recent CFSI visit and meetings with Congressional offices and the importance of SWAAFC continuing to support this effort. We had a detailed discussion of ways to honor the recent passing of Chief Kevin Brooks from Semmes FD, as he was an active member and leader in training efforts for our region. We decided to pursue options for a memorial fund in his honor. Next, we met May 21st at the Baldwin County 911 Center with a good turnout of Chiefs and several vendors. This meeting and meal was sponsored by 1-800-BoardUp. We welcomed a new chief from Semmes and further discussed a memorial fund in honor of Chief Brooks. We took action to establish the Chief Kevin Brooks Training and Memorial Fund to promote training efforts in our region, and vendors present voiced that they would offer financial support. We discussed the plans for the upcoming summer conference and the SEAFAC conference in Savannah. Several training updates were given for class opportunities around the region. Several announcements were made for upcoming training opportunities in the region. Lastly, we met on July 16th at the Baldwin County 911 Center with another good attendance of members and vendors. The meeting and meal were sponsored by



120 West Verbena Avenue
Foley, Alabama 36535
(251) 943-1266
Fax (251) 943-7432
www.cityoffoley.org

All-Pro Fire and Water. We discussed the upcoming summer conference and encouraged everyone to participate. We announced a \$500 donation from a vendor to start the memorial fund that we recently established. We discussed FRI in August in Kansas City. We thanked Chief Roger Few from Spanish Fort for his faithful service to Baldwin County and SWAAFC, as he is retiring soon. We discussed the upcoming grant programs and pending litigation involving fire apparatus manufacturers.

We continue to seek recruitment of our many volunteer chiefs in the region along with a few paid chiefs in the outlying counties, and we hope to continue to see our association grow. We will continue to work to improve networking and training for our members.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Darby, SWAAFC President



Joshua A. Bingham
Fire Chief

City of Prattville Fire Department

201 Gin Shop Hill Road • Prattville, Alabama 36067



Bill Gillespie, Jr.
Mayor

Date: July 23, 2026

President Tracy Thornton and members of the AAFC,

It has been a pleasure to serve in the role of President of the Southeast Alabama Fire Chiefs Association since February of this year. Here are some of the activities that I have participated in while representing the SEAFCA:

- Attended the Winter and Summer Conference for 2026
- Attended CFSI in Washington, D.C. in March of 2026
- Attended all SEAFCA meetings
- Participated in several online meetings
- Attended legislative sessions at the State House concerning Fire and EMS topics
- Hosted Director Matt Russell of the Alabama Fire College and representatives from CAFCA to discuss pre-consumption conditioning changes to all FF I/II recruit schools in July of this year.

Sincerely,

Joshua A. Bingham, Fire Chief