



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS FOUNDATION

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IAFC FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2015 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The International Association of Fire Chiefs Foundation (IAFCF), committed to strengthening future leaders through higher education, announces its 2015 Scholarship award recipients. The Foundation is pleased to increase the number of scholarships awarded this year to thirty-nine (39), up from twenty-nine (29) awarded in 2014. This number represents a thirty percent (30%) increase over last year and was made possible by an increase in the contributions and support of IAFC Foundation donors. The recipients are:

- ***The John M. Buckman, III Scholarship*** is presented to *Captain/Paramedic Glenn Schlessner*, Thornton Fire Department in Illinois.
- ***The Chief Charles A. "Chet" Henry Memorial Scholarship***, made possible with support from VFIS, for exceptional commitment to public service, is presented to *Firefighter/Paramedic III Sara Shaffer*, Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department in Maryland.
- ***The Garry L. Briese Scholarship***, made possible with support from the Motorola Solutions Foundation, is presented to *Driver/Engineer Johnathan Perkins*, Hillsborough County Fire Rescue in Florida.
- ***The Heather Westphal Memorial Scholarship***, created in honor of the IAFC's Membership Marketing Manager and benefiting women in the fire service, is presented to *Firefighter Kimberly Cox*, Eden Prairie Fire Department in Minnesota.
- ***The IAFC President's Scholarship*** is presented to *Firefighter John Aniello* of New Canaan Fire Department in Connecticut.

Motorola Solutions Future Leaders Scholarships:

- **Richard Carico**, Captain, Caldwell Fire Department (ID)
- **Joshua Gries**, Firefighter/Paramedic, Byron Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Thomas Gwyer**, Fire Battalion Chief, Myrtle Beach Fire Department (SC)
- **James Roberts III**, Fire Chief, Greenfield Fire Territory (IN)
- **Patrick Shipp**, Fire Chief, Webster Fire Department (TX)

Company Officer Leadership Symposium (COLS) Scholarship:

- **Angela Hughes**, Fire Captain, Baltimore County Fire Department (MD)

Fire Explorer Scholarships:

- **Caleb Ayers**, Verdigris Fire Protection District (OK)
- **Matthew Lepkowski**, Brighton Fire Department (NY)
- **Evan Martinez**, Apex Fire Department (NC)
- **Dominik Pabianczyk**, Streamwood Fire Department (IL)
- **Brandon Tarver**, FDMJ Mount Juliet Fire Department (TN)
- **Johnathon Tibbs**, Bath Fire Department (OH)
- **Tyler Zegers**, City of Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Department (FL)

“The Foundation is delighted to provide these Scholarships to assist our dedicated men and women in their pursuit of a career in the fire and emergency services. Our award winners represent the future of the fire and emergency services and it’s imperative that we assist them in their quest to serve and protect our communities,” stated Anthony P. Campisi, IAFCF President and President/CEO of Glatfelter Insurance Group.

IAFC Foundation Educational Scholarships:

- **Stephen Agenbroad**, Assistant Chief, Clearcreek Fire District (OH)
- **Nathan Bailey**, Lieutenant, Atlanta Fire Rescue (GA)
- **Patrick Burke**, Firefighter, Homer Township Fire Protection District (IL)
- **John Carlson**, Firefighter, West Des Moines Fire Department (IA)
- **Frank Chojnacki**, Firefighter/Paramedic, Homer Township Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Edwin Coleman**, Firefighter/Paramedic, City of Albany Fire Department (OR)
- **Michael Collins**, Firefighter/Paramedic, Homer Township Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Ross Copland**, Resident Firefighter/EMT Volunteer, Vashon Island Fire & Rescue (WA)
- **Sean DePuma**, Firefighter, Spanish Fort Fire Rescue (AL)
- **Thomas Eckert Jr.**, Lieutenant/Paramedic, Homer Township Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Joshua Freeman**, Fire Captain/Paramedic, Cosumnes CSD Fire Department (CA)
- **William Freeman**, Chief, City of Cleveland Heights (OH)
- **Kelly Gitzke**, Firefighter/Paramedic, Huntley Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Sherry Hess**, Volunteer Firefighter/Rescue Diver, Estes Valley Fire Protection District (CO)
- **Anthony LaFemina**, FF/Paramedic/Driver-Operator, Darien Woodridge Fire Protection District (IL)

- **Edward McCormack**, Battalion Chief, Homer Township Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Candice McDonald**, Firefighter/EMS Officer, Winona Fire Department (OH)
- **Loren Thompson**, Captain, Roanoke Fire-EMS, Dunlap Fire and Rescue (VA)
- **Kevin Uthe**, Lieutenant, Homer Township Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Chad Vlietstra**, Firefighter/Paramedic, Homer Township Fire Protection District (IL)
- **Lauren Wulf**, Administrative, Elmhurst Fire Department (IL)

IAFC Foundation Scholarships are made possible by generous contributions from Glatfelter Insurance Group, 1-800-BOARDUP, Motorola Solutions Foundation, W. S. Darley & Company, IAFC's Emergency Vehicle Management Section, IAFC's Executive Fire Officers Section, IAFC's Federal & Military Fire Services Section, IAFC's Fire & Life Safety Section, IAFC's Safety, Health & Survival Section, IAFC's Volunteer and Combination Officer Section, and from many individuals and supporters of the fire service industry around the country.

IAFC Foundation provides scholarships that make it possible for fire and EMS first responders to access the advanced learning opportunities they need in order to be prepared for the increasingly complex realities of the world today. The scholarship awards made by the IAFC Foundation impact the fire service and communities by providing first responders with the educational opportunities they need to lead the fire service and serve and protect our citizens. For more information on the Foundation or to make a donation please visit www.iafcf.org.