

CT FIRE SERVICE

**Common Goals,
Many Unified Voices,
One Plan.**

2023



Are you an active or retired firefighter in a Connecticut career, volunteer, or combination fire department and interested in making Connecticut's fire services stronger, more inclusive, and better prepared?

Have you ever wondered how powerful the fire service could be in legislative efforts to improve firefighter safety or gain more resources for Connecticut firefighters and the issues we face, using one plan to achieve our goals?

If you answered yes to any or all these questions, this is what you've been waiting for.

**YOU HAVE A VOICE IN THE
FUTURE OF THE FIRE SERVICE.**

The Joint Council combines the strength and vision of the President's and delegates from the Connecticut State Firefighters Association, Connecticut Career Fire Chief's Association, Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association, Connecticut Fire Department Instructor's Association, Connecticut Fire Equipment Mechanics Association, Connecticut Fire Marshals Association, State of Connecticut Fire Administrator, Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association.

For the 2023 legislative session, the Joint Council is taking a fresh approach to addressing the issues impacting the Connecticut Fire Service.

Harnessing the skills and experience of a dedicated lobbyist, the Joint Council organizes the legislative priorities for the various organizations, identifies strategies for success, and then works with all stakeholders to achieve the best outcome for the fire service.

1. Make statutory modifications to ensure the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, and State Fire Administrator, are granted more responsibility for public fire protection and require that they conduct an inclusive strategic master planning process that addresses all critical issues facing Connecticut's fire service.
2. Support fire service retention and recruitment by increasing firefighter training access and availability by ensuring increased and sustainable operational funding for the Connecticut Fire Academy and nine (9) existing regional fire schools.
3. While the strategic master planning process is underway, ensure the physical structure of existing facilities remain serviceable through capital funding for repairs and maintenance for the regional fire schools.

There are many other issues facing the fire service ranging from firefighter cancer, declining career/volunteer applicants, to the number and location of regional fire schools, among many other things.

The methodology being applied is to prioritize a foundation and a single plan so that we are heard with one strong collective message in order to secure the attention and resources needed to approach each issue.

Other legislative issues will come up this year. When they arise, the Joint Council, as well as each individual organization should and will, work to communicate our position on each issue.

Your role is simple and requires little time. First, know which organization(s) you belong to and ensure your Joint Council representative receives your input. They were elected to further your interests in the fire service and should bring your thoughts to the Joint Council.

Next, become knowledgeable about the issues impacting Connecticut's Fire Service today. Once established, understand the legislative priorities in the Common Goals, Many Unified Voices, One Plan document.

Finally, become involved in one of the Joint Council organizations. This is particularly important if you are a younger member or new officer in the fire service. The Joint Council actions today will create tomorrow's opportunities for you.

If you, your department, your organization, your local legislator, or elected official need more information on the coordinated efforts of the Joint Council of Connecticut Fire Service Organizations, or the Common Goals, Many Unified Voices, One Plan document please contact any of the individuals or organizations listed.

Connecticut State Firefighters Association
Connecticut Career Fire Chief's Association
Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association
Connecticut Fire Department Instructor's Association
Connecticut Fire Equipment Mechanics Association
Connecticut Fire Marshals Association
State of Connecticut Fire Administrator
Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association



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