

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Douglas P. Forsman**  
**Fire Chief**  
**Union Colony Fire Rescue Authority**

## **Welcome to the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association Great NEW website!**

The CSFCA Board of Directors has made several changes to the website. The changes are part of the Board's renewed focus on serving you, the Colorado Fire Service leader. The website will provide our members with the latest, most accurate information concerning your Colorado fire service.

Before I speak more about the website, let me introduce some of the other new and exciting initiatives underway:

**CSFCA Office Move.** The Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association has officially moved its offices and is now co-located with South Metro Fire Rescue in Centennial, Colorado. This new location also offers convenience for our members who are visiting the Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC).

**Strategic Plan Implementation.** One of the legacies of the 2005-2006 CSFCA Board of Directors was the development of a Strategic Plan for the Association. The task of your new Board of Directors is to effectively implement the Strategic Plan in order to better serve the needs of our members. The new website, the recent revision of the Constitution and Bylaws, and the creation of a volunteer chiefs section, a wildland fire service section, and a Technical Advisory Group, are all a part of this effort.

**Volunteer Chiefs Section.** As a means to better serve the needs of the volunteer chief officers in Colorado, the decision was made to explore the creation of a section of the CSFCA devoted to this need. Chief Don Chapman of the Alamosa Fire Department has agreed to chair the effort, with the assistance of Chief David DeTray of the La Veta Fire Department. Now is a great opportunity for volunteer chief officers to get involved and reap the benefits of interaction with their peers.

**Wildland Fire Service Section.** Also underway is an effort to create and implement a Wildland Fire Section of the CSFCA, which would focus on statewide wildland fire mitigation and wildland firefighting issues. Chief Manuel Navarro of the Colorado Springs Fire Department has agreed to chair the effort to implement this Section.

**Members Helping Members Network.** The CSFCA Strategic Plan calls for the development of a Technical Advisory Group, or a "Members Helping Members" network. The purpose of this network is to provide subject matter experts that can be called upon when their colleagues are in need of assistance. It is also intended to provide a pool of "seasoned" fire chiefs willing to serve as mentors for new fire chiefs. Development of the Members Helping Members Directory is well underway and it will be published soon.

Watch this website and your E-mail for news and updates concerning these and other initiatives.

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**"The Internet is a magnificent tool to use to be able to stay connected with our widely dispersed membership"**

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The Internet is a magnificent tool to use to be able to stay connected with our widely dispersed membership. As you scroll through the website, you will find the current legislative update, other news and upcoming events, the Board of Directors' bios, and the minutes of the Board and General Membership meetings. Additionally, there are links to the sections of the CSFCA and the various county associations, to list a few.

Our goal is to inform you about what is happening in Colorado concerning the fire service. You will be able to access committee meeting minutes, along with the ability to access an online library of example documents for the fire service community, as well as a variety of other resources.

The website project will be completed in phases with additional functionalities that will later look at on-line registration and payment functions as well as private log-ins exclusively for members only.

None of this would happen without the dedication and commitment of the entire CSFCA Board of Directors, and you, the members of the Association. Without your willingness to support and participate in the Association, the needs of the Colorado fire service would be largely ignored.

I and the other members of the CSFCA Board of Directors are pleased to have the opportunity to serve and represent you, and are interested in your input. If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me, your Regional or Section Representative on the Board of Directors, or the Association's Executive Director.

Sincerely,

Douglas P. Forsman, President  
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