



The

FALL 2018

A Publication of the Oregon Fire District Directors Association

COMMUNIQUE

*2018 Oregon Fire
Service Conference*

October 25-27 Bend

**The Power of
TEAMWORK**

Hosted by OFDDA

**Tips for Working with Your
District's Attorney**

When Lawyers and Clients are a Team

Best Practices Survey Credits

SDIS Offers Credits for Survey

Legislative and Election Update

The COMMUNIQUE

A Publication of the
Oregon Fire District
Directors Association

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MISSION

To serve and strengthen through the provision and coordination of timely information, education, and legislation.

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IN THIS EDITION

Legislative & Election Update	3
District Credits for Best Practices Survey	4
OFSOA Update	5
Legislative & Election Update Continued	6-7
OFDDA Conference Registration Form	8
Oregon Fire Service Conference Event Schedule	9
Oregon Fire Service Museum Update	10
Tips for Working with Your District's Attorney.....	11
Oregon Fire Service Conference Info	Back Cover

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LEGISLATIVE & ELECTION UPDATE

By: Genoa Ingram, OFDDA Executive Director

URBAN RENEWAL — OFDDA continues to respond to fire districts across Oregon who have expressed concerns relating to the deferral of property revenues by urban renewal agencies. Concerns expressed include types of projects—some public projects will never return dollars to the tax rolls—as well as a lack of communication between some urban renewal agencies and fire districts who would like to have input into the projects.

On Wednesday, September 11, OFDDA participated in the final meeting of the Urban Renewal Oversight Committee, formed following the 2017 legislative session to attempt to reach compromise on legislative improvements to ORS Chapter 457, relating to urban renewal.

The deadline for requesting bill drafts from Legislative Counsel in order to be pre-session filed is September 28. Prior to the deadline, the Oversight Committee will submit its concepts addressing the following points:

- Clarify the language required to be in notices so that it clearly states the impact on property tax rates.
- Require urban renewal agencies to provide annual financial reports to each affected taxing district, including a summary of maximum indebtedness. Further, agency staff shall be available to consult with affected taxing districts and respond to any questions.
- Limit the addition of land to no more than 20 percent of the total land area of the original plan, regardless of any acreage reduction.
- Urban renewal plans adopted after July 1, 2019, that include “special projects” (art installation, clock tower, bell tower, etc.) must obtain the written concurrence of at least three of the largest four taxing districts.

Of the four, the requirement to obtain written concurrence will be the most controversial. However, all participants of the Oversight Committee are negotiating in good faith to reach consensus.

2018 ELECTION — The November 6, 2018, election is shaping up to be one of the most significant in recent times due to the possibility of a “supermajority” in each legislative chamber. Currently, Democrats need just one more seat in the Senate and one in the House to reach a three-fifths supermajority in both chambers, enabling them to pass tax measures without Republican support (currently, all revenue raising measures must be approved by a three-fifths majority).

One of the driving factors impacting voter turnout in the November election is the Initiative Petition process,

continued on page 6



Don Thompson
OFDDA President

President's Message

After another challenging summer, I hope you will be able to come to Bend for the conference this October for networking, education and association business. We have a great lineup of learning opportunities starting Thursday, October 24, and if you can make it earlier, there is a networking event Wednesday afternoon. *Please join me in Bend for another great learning experience!*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Thompson".

DISTRICT CREDITS FOR BEST PRACTICES SURVEY

'Tis the Season for Best Practices

Here at SDAO, fall is Best Practices time and our underwriters are getting excited to apply credits to your district's 2019 insurance contributions. So put on your sweater, cozy up with a cup of coffee, and log in to the SDIS Insurance Site to review your district's best practices survey.

The Best Practices Survey is your gateway to receiving up to 10 percent in insurance contribution credits for your district. If you have not reviewed the five categories in which you can earn credits, please visit our website at www.sdao.com/s4/programs/bestpractices.aspx. We highly encourage you to take advantage of this valuable program. **Make sure you submit your survey by the Friday before Thanksgiving - the deadline is November 16th for all districts.**

Regional Risk Management Training Series

To help you fulfill the training requirement of the Best Practices Program, we are inviting you to attend our regional risk management training series. It will be held in various locations of the state and our team will be covering the following three topics:

A Supervisor's Role in Preventing Injuries

Studies indicate that a supervisor's response to a workplace injury may be the single most important influence on the quality and speed of the worker's recovery and the success or failure of the stay at work or return to work outcome. This training is designed to support districts in helping their injured workers stay at work, performing regular or modified duties or return to safe and meaningful work as soon as possible; and understanding and controlling costs associated with workplace injuries and illnesses.

Facilities Care and Maintenance

The losses from fire, snow, frozen pipes, wind and flooding can all be prevented. We will discuss pre-loss inspections to help mitigate these losses and more. Attendees will learn simple ways to prevent property losses that will not break the bank.

Return to Work

In a workers' compensation program, the only way to save money is to bring the individual back to light-duty work. This session will focus on the importance of returning individuals to work quickly and will provide the tools available to assist you with this. **Visit the event website at <http://www.cvent.com/d/kgqhdh> for more information and to register.**

Risk Management Forum

We will also be holding our final session of the quarterly **Risk Management Forum on November 15** in Tigard. If you can't make it to the regional risk training, this would be a great option for you as it will cover similar topics. **You can learn more on the event website at <http://www.cvent.com/d/ptq6bh>.**

All of our trainings are eligible for Best Practices credit. If you have any questions about the Best Practices Program, please contact **Jaime Keeling** at jkeeling@sdao.com. If you need assistance with training questions, please contact SDAO Member Services at memberservices@sdao.com.

Mark your calendar for the 2019 SDAO Annual Conference! This will be our 40th annual event and will be held February 8-10 in Sunriver.

OREGON FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL

The 13th annual Oregon Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Ceremony was held September 20, 2018, at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem. The ceremony, hosted by the Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard and the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST), honored all 169 Oregon Fire Fighters who have died in the line of duty since the first known fire



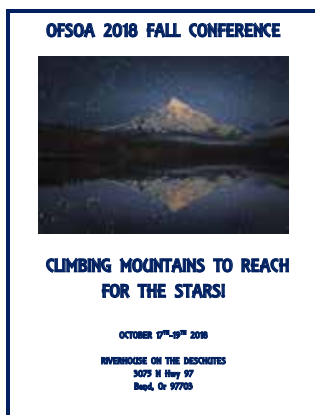
service death in 1881. Oregon did not suffer a line of duty death in 2017.



Doug Grafe, Chief of Fire Protection for the Oregon Department of Forestry was the featured speaker. Honor guard members called out the names of Oregon's fallen and, after the traditional sounding of the fire bell, two wreaths were placed next to the memorial wall along with a ceremonially folded American flag. A bagpipe tribute of "Amazing Grace" was played and the solemn notes of

"Taps," ended the ceremony. Casey, the Official Fire Safety Dalmation, participated in the special memorial. The annual memorial ceremony is held on the third Thursday of every September.

OFSOA Fall Conference



Please put the OFSOA fall conference on your calendar. The event will be held in **Bend, Oregon, at the Riverhouse** on **October 17-19, 2018**. The conference theme is "Climbing Mountains to Reach for the Stars!" Featured sessions will include these topics:

- Teamwork Essentials: Communication & Trust
- Dealing with Difficult Co-Workers and/or the Public
- Front Desk Security and Basic Self Defense
- Diversity and Overcoming Challenges
- Pay Equity and Hot Topics



There will also be car fire training, a Life Flight Helicopter with patient transfer demonstration, and a Murder Mystery Show and Dinner.

Online Registration is open NOW! For registration materials and more information, visit http://ofsoa.com/Registration_Conference.aspx.

Register now for the 2018 Oregon Fire Service Conference, held **October 25-27** at **The Riverhouse** on the Deschutes River in Bend, Oregon! Visit www.ofdda.com for more information and registration materials.

Legislative and Election Update

Continued from page 3

where voters have the opportunity to have final say on controversial issues. Included in this document is a listing of all Initiatives, Referendums, and Referrals. While very few may directly impact fire districts, what ultimately ends up on the ballot is significant in that it influences who will show up to vote. If more conservative voters are prompted to turn out to weigh in on ballot measures, conservative candidates will fare better, and vice versa.

Such driving factors will also very likely determine the outcome of the Governor's race, since current polls show incumbent Governor Kate Brown and Republican challenger Knute Buehler nearly tied.

INITIATIVES, REFERENDUMS, AND REFERRALS

Nearly fifty Initiatives, Referendums, and Referrals are vying for voters' attention in November. Of those, five have qualified for the ballot as of this writing and several have been withdrawn, including a proposal for Oregon to secede from the United States citing "irreconcilable differences." Another proposal, Initiative Petition 43, would have restricted the sale, production and ownership of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines. The measure was withdrawn on June 18 due to legal challenges surrounding the measure's official ballot title and summary. Proponents will focus on the 2020 ballot. Here is a brief synopsis of what has qualified to date:

Ballot Measure 102 was referred by the legislature in the form of House Joint Resolution 201. The Measure would allow local governments to issue bonds to pay for affordable housing projects that involve nonprofits or other nongovernmental entities.

Ballot Measure 103 was introduced in response to Measure 97, the 2016 proposal to raise \$3 billion per year with a new tax on Oregon companies' sales. Measure 103 seeks a constitutional amendment that would ban any new tax on groceries.

Ballot Measure 104 is the business community's "A Tax is A Tax" initiative. The proposal seeks to require a three-fifths vote of all members elected to each House to pass bills for raising revenue. "Raising Revenue" means any tax or fee increase, "whether accomplished by the creation, imposition or increase of any tax or fee, or by the modification, elimination or change in eligibility for any exemption, credit, deduction or lower rate of taxation."

Ballot Measure 105 will give voters the opportunity to decide the future of Oregon's long-standing sanctuary state status. The Measure is sponsored by Oregon State Representatives Mike Nearman (R-Independence), Sal Esquivel (R-Medford), and Greg Barreto (R-Cove). The Secretary of State certified that Initiative Petition 22 had 97,762 valid signatures — 86 percent of the signatures submitted and more than the 88,184 required to qualify for the general election. The initiative aims to remove a 31-year-old statute prohibiting Oregon law enforcement agencies from arresting individuals whose only crime is violating federal immigration law.

Ballot Measure 106 will ask voters to amend the Constitution to prohibit the expenditure of public funds for any abortion, except when medically necessary or as may be required by federal law. Proponents, including former State Representative Marilyn Shannon, turned in 117,799 valid signatures, just 221 over the required 117,578 needed.

For a complete list of initiatives, referendums, and referrals (including those that did not qualify or have been withdrawn, see http://egov.sos.state.or.us/elec/web_irr_search.main_search.

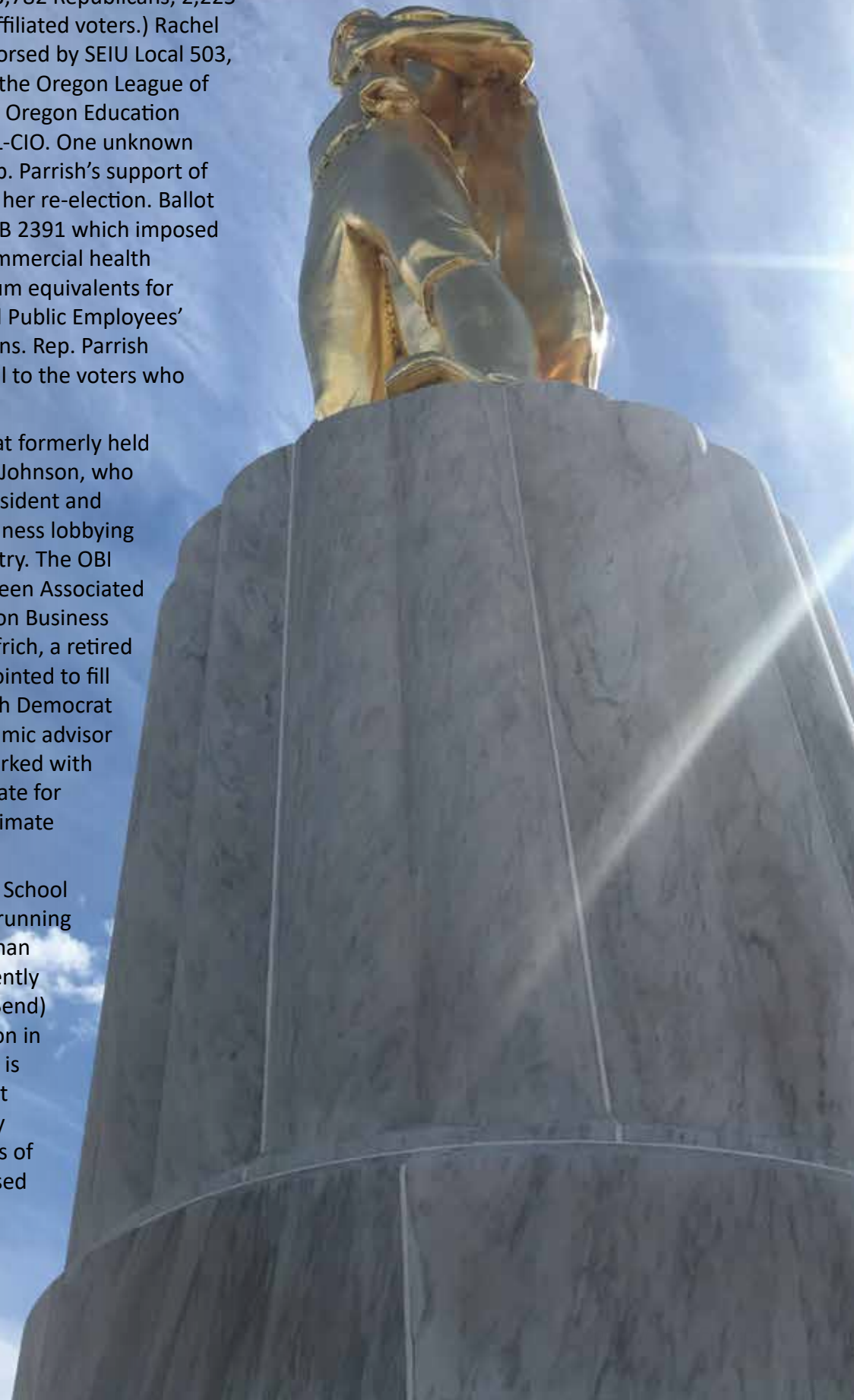
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES "SWING RACES"

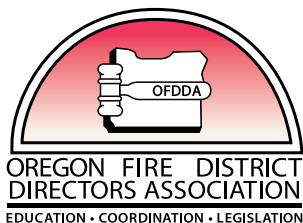
House District 20: Paul Evans, 3rd Term Incumbent is being challenged by Selma Pierce, wife of former gubernatorial candidate Bud Pierce. The latter gained valuable name recognition during her husband's campaign. Voter registration in the District favors Evans with 15,356 registered Democrats as of July 2018 to 13,714 Republicans. The District is known to be fiercely independent with 13,907 voters who identify as non-affiliated and 2,192 registered as Independent.

House District 37: Incumbent Julie Parrish (R-West Linn) has served in the legislature since 2011, even though voter registration in the District favors Democrats. (In July 2018, the Oregon Secretary of State reported 17,025 registered Democrats, 13,782 Republicans, 2,225 Independent, and 12,867 non-affiliated voters.) Rachel Prusak (D) is a nurse who is endorsed by SEIU Local 503, the Oregon Nurses Association, the Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV), the Oregon Education Association, and the Oregon AFL-CIO. One unknown factor in this race is whether Rep. Parrish's support of Ballot Measure 101 will sideline her re-election. Ballot Measure 101 was a referral of HB 2391 which imposed a 1.5 percent assessment on commercial health insurance premiums and premium equivalents for managed care organizations and Public Employees' Benefit Board health benefit plans. Rep. Parrish spearheaded a referral of the bill to the voters who overwhelmingly upheld the tax.

House District 52: This is the seat formerly held by Hood River Republican Mark Johnson, who resigned to become the first President and CEO of Oregon's largest pro-business lobbying group, Oregon Business & Industry. The OBI was the result of a merger between Associated Oregon Industries and the Oregon Business Association. Republican Jeff Helfrich, a retired Portland police officer, was appointed to fill the vacancy and will face off with Democrat Anna Williams, a full-time academic advisor at Simmons College who has worked with several interest groups to advocate for elderly rights, health care and climate change awareness.

House District 54: Bend/La Pine School Board member Cheri Helt (R) is running against Bend City Councilor Nathan Boddie (D). This is the seat currently held by Rep. Knute Buehler, (R-Bend) who chose not to seek re-election in order to run for Governor. What is interesting about this race is that although Nathan Boddie is a City Council member, three members of the Council have publicly endorsed Helt and she is expected to win the seat.





2018 OREGON FIRE SERVICE CONFERENCE

Hosted by Oregon Fire District Directors Association

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Register online at www.ofdda.com, fax your completed form to 503-364-9919, or email it to laureal@ofdda.com.

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

AGENCY/DISTRICT: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____ FIRST TIME ATTENDEE?: _____

REGISTRATION FEE

	on or before 10/10	after 10/11
Member*: Full-Conference Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$314.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$364.00
Member*: Single-Day Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$165.00 Day(s): _____
Nonmember: Full-Conference Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$364.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$414.00
Nonmember: Single-Day Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$165.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$190.00 Day(s): _____

Remember to
bring a donation for
the silent auction!
Proceeds help fund the
scholarship program.

*Member price applies to any personnel who serve or are employed by an agency that is a current OFDDA member. Please call the OFDDA Office at 800-223-9708 if you need to confirm membership.

Full-conference registration includes Thursday and Friday lunches, daily refreshments and Vendor Night appetizers for one individual. Guest lunch(es) may be purchased separately.

GUEST MEALS

I will need _____ guest lunches at \$25 each = \$_____

PLEASE LIST ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:

For Attendee: _____

For Guest(s): _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS (select one): ☐ Check enclosed ☐ Bill agency listed above ☐ Send me a credit card authorization form

BREAKOUT SESSION SELECTIONS (Please indicate all sessions you plan to attend)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25—I will be attending:

- 10:00 AM ☐ Local Budget Law: An Elected Official's Guide -OR- ☐ Home Fire Sprinklers
- 1:30 PM ☐ Board Member Duties & Responsibilities -OR- ☐ Regulatory Issues Affecting Firefighters
- Evening ☐ Sponsor Appreciation Night - BINGO Games -OR- ☐ Not Attending

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26—I will be attending:

- 8:15 AM ☐ Mental Health Wellness -OR- ☐ Cyber Preparedness
- 10:00 AM ☐ Ethics Law for Elected Officials -OR- ☐ Kids Today! Engaging Youth in the Fire Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27—I will be attending:

- 8:00 AM ☐ Oregon Fire Service History 10:00 AM ☐ Active Shooter Threats: Are You Prepared?

All cancellations and refund requests must be made in writing via fax, email, or mail. Cancellations received by **October 10, 2018**, are fully refundable. Cancellations received on **October 11, 2018**, or later are non-refundable; however, substitutions are encouraged and incur no additional fees.

2018 Oregon Fire Service Conference

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

PRE-CONFERENCE- WEDNESDAY, October 24

10:00 am	OFDDA Board Meeting
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Joint Board Lunch
1:15 - 5:30 pm	Optional Event - The Local Pour Tour
6:30 pm	OFDDA Past Presidents/ Board Dinner

CONFERENCE BEGINS-THURSDAY, October 25

7:00 am	Complimentary BREAKFAST for Riverhouse Guests
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Registration
8:15 - 9:00 am	Opening Ceremonies/Memorial
9:00 - 9:45 am	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Fire Chief Mike Myers, Portland Fire & Rescue
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Budget Law: An Elected Official's Guide Home Fire Sprinklers: What Fire Service Leaders Should Know
12:00 - 1:30 pm	LUNCH & Fire Service Updates
1:30 - 3:00 pm	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Member Duties & Responsibilities Regulatory Issues Affecting Firefighters
3:15 - 4:30 pm	OFDDA Business Meeting & Legislative Update
4:30 pm	OFDDA Budget Workshop (Proposed budget on the website.)
4:30 - 6:30 pm	SPONSOR APPRECIATION NIGHT (BINGO Games) Family Friendly Event

Full conference schedule is available on the OFDDA website at www.ofdda.com.

FRIDAY, October 26

7:00 am	Complimentary BREAKFAST for Riverhouse Guests
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Registration Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing Wellness into Your Department Cyber Preparedness
8:15 - 9:45 am	Concurrent Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics Law for Elected Officials Kids Today! Engaging Youth in the Fire Service
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	
12:00 - 1:30 pm	LUNCH & Industry Updates
1:30 - 3:00 pm	SDAO Presentation - Youth in the Fire Service

3:15 - 4:00 pm OFDDA Business Meeting

SATURDAY, October 27

7:00 am	Complimentary BREAKFAST for Riverhouse Guests
7:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration
8:00 - 10:00 am	Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oregon Fire Service History
10:00 am - noon	Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Shooter Threats: Are You Prepared?



Oregon Fire Service Museum Update



Construction continues on the Oregon Fire Service Museum building at Powerland Heritage Park near Salem. The building walls and roof are complete, the windows have been installed, and the apparatus bay doors will be installed soon. The materials for the brick façade will be ordered soon. Interior framing is also progressing.

A large collection of firefighting artifacts has been donated to the museum by a California fire museum. Some of our museum board members will be traveling to California this month to load and move this collection. Any donations to help defray the estimated \$3800 moving cost would be much appreciated.

Fundraising for the construction continues. Funds are still needed for completing the interior utilities and finishes of the building. Please consider making a donation to the building fund or purchasing an engraved brick. We are also still accepting donated surplus apparatus and equipment for resale. Please visit our website at oregonfiremuseum.org or follow us on Facebook for more information.

Are you interested in submitting an article or advertising in The Communique?
Contact the OFDDA office at info@ofdda.com or 800-223-9708.



Tips for Working with Your District's Attorney

By: Ross M. Williamson, Local Government Law Group, PC

Your District's attorney works hard to answer your legal questions and provide you with the best legal advice. Lawyers work best when the lawyer and client work together as a team. Following are a few tips intended to help you get the most out of your relationship with your attorney (e.g., helping your attorney be efficient, effective, and timely).

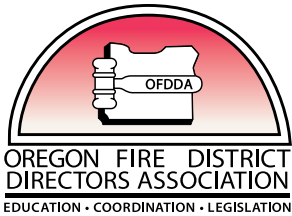
- Double-check your authority. In most organizations, only a select few people have the authority to contact the District's attorney. Most often, the Fire Chief and the Board President have the general authority to incur these expenses. As a result, before sending off an email or calling your District's attorney, make sure you are authorized to make the contact. Informing your attorney of your authority will allow your attorney to hit the ground running on your legal issue without having to take a step backwards to ensure that the work is authorized.
- The little details can make a difference. Your attorney will need some very basic information in order to start working on your project and it saves everyone time if you ensure your attorney has this basic information when you first make contact. You might be surprised how often one or more of these elements are missing from an initial contact. The basic information your attorney needs includes: 1) your name and position (let's not be so efficient that we miss the most basic of information); 2) your preferred contact information (don't hang up the phone until your attorney knows how to reach you); and 3) your timeline for getting an answer (your attorney cannot meet your expectations on turn-around time if your attorney doesn't know your timeline). In addition, if your question concerns application of District policies, also make sure you provide your attorney with all the policies that could apply – remembering that sometimes applicable policies can live in several different places within your organization (being thorough upfront saves time in the end).
- Talking earlier is better than talking later. Attorneys understand that they are expensive and we understand that clients sometimes shy away from making contact for fear of the expense. But it is very often the case that a little preventative work can go a long way toward saving the District money in the long run. Letting your attorney get involved early is almost always the better strategy as opposed to waiting until you need to seek forgiveness.
- What is your goal? Your attorney can be a great partner in finding a way to reach your goals. When contacting your attorney about a problem or question, telling your attorney your goal can often help your attorney provide the most efficient advice. If your attorney knows where you are trying to go or where you want to be, you and your attorney can focus on options for getting you to your goals rather than simply answering your immediate questions.
- Your experience matters. The attorney-client relationship really is a two-way street. While attorneys have special schooling and training related to legal matters, your knowledge and experiences are vital to the relationship and are needed to find the best solutions for the District's legal concerns. Do not be afraid to offer your opinions and comments based upon your experiences. Your attorney will certainly benefit from your comments and your attorney's work product will be better after having taken into account your input.



The Legal Beagle

Local Government Law Group PC
975 Oak St. Ste 700
Eugene, Oregon 97404
(541) 485-5151

These are just a few tips aimed at helping you get the most out of your legal services. Not only can these tips lead to lower legal expenses, but they can also lead to legal advice that better meets your District's needs.



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“THE POWER OF TEAMWORK” 2018 OREGON FIRE SERVICE CONFERENCE COMING TO BEND IN OCTOBER!

The 2018 Oregon Fire Service Conference will be held at [The Riverhouse in Bend, Oregon](#), on [October 25-27](#). Sessions this year will emphasize working collaboratively to build up Oregon’s fire service through [“The Power of Teamwork.”](#)

Registration information and conference details, including scholarship information, are available at: www.ofdda.com.

The conference schedule includes two OFDDA Annual Business Meetings. Nominations and elections for open OFDDA Board Member positions will be conducted at these business meetings.

If you are interested in serving on the Board, visit the OFDDA website to download an application and fax your completed form to 503-364-9919, then contact OFDDA Nominating Committee Chair Dennis Rogers at ddrogers@onlinenw.com to be considered.



***We look forward to seeing you in beautiful Bend, Oregon, October 25-27,
at OFDDA’s largest training and networking event of the year!***