



Recommended attire throughout: Business casual (khakis, polo/oxford shirts)

## Thursday, June 13

5:30–7:00pm

### Event Check-In

Pick up your name badge and an event agenda. Light refreshments provided.

Cascade Foyer

## Friday, June 14

7:30–8:30am

### Event Check-In

Pick up your name badge and an event agenda.

Cascade Foyer

8:30-8:55am

### OPENING SESSION

*Paul Acosta, Vice Chair, NVFC Health, Safety, and Training Committee*

Find out more about the NVFC and get important information for your attendance at the Summit. Featuring a special welcome from NVFC Chair Steve Hirsch, Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association President Jason Servatius, and Director of the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Eriks Gabliks.

Mt. Hood/  
Mt. Bachelor

8:55–9:00am

### Transition to classrooms

9:00–11:00am

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS I

#### **The Passion of Training: The Moral Imperative**

*David Bullard, Lieutenant & EMT-I/Field Training Coordinator, Columbia County (GA) Fire Rescue; NVFC Director (GA); NVFC Healthy, Safety, and Training Committee*

This presentation will discuss the moral imperative of the company officer, which is it to prepare their crew functionally and effectively for their assigned roles. The presentation will introduce effective habits, strong guidelines for effective company preparation, and an understanding of how stress and coordination must be built into training.

3 Sisters

#### **Recruiting Your Replacement...and Keeping Them There**

Mt. St. Helens

*John D'Alessandro, Commissioner, Halfmoon-Waterford (NY) Fire District #1; Secretary & Volunteer Programs Coordinator, Firemen's Association of the State of New York*

It is often heard within the fire service that there are two types of departments: those that have recruitment and retention problems - and those that will. This presentation is based on the grassroots experience and practical knowledge of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York, which utilized a SAFER grant to recruit 25,000 new volunteers over a four-year performance period.

<b>11:00–11:10am</b>	<b>Break</b> <i>Light refreshments provided, sponsored by Verizon Wireless</i>	
<b>11:10am–12:00pm</b>	<b>KEYNOTE</b> <i>Ali Warren Rothrock, Firefighter/EMT, King of Prussia (PA) Volunteer Fire Company; Author, Where Hope Lives</i> Ali will begin her presentation by sharing her story. She will then discuss some tips for firehouse leadership and talk about how we can all contribute to a mentally healthy workplace.	Mt. Hood/ Mt. Bachelor
<b>12:00–12:45pm</b>	<b>LUNCH</b> <i>Network over a lunch hosted by the NVFC.</i>	Mt. Hood/ Mt. Bachelor
<b>12:45pm–2:45pm</b>	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS II</b>	

**Firefighter Mental Health: Stop Sucking It Up** 3 Sisters  
*Feike Van Dijk, Lander City (WY) Volunteer Fire Department*  
 After losing his children in a house fire, this instructor decided to honor their memory by becoming a firefighter. He will share his journey as a PTSD survivor, burn survivor, and firefighter to highlight human resiliency as well as the many resources, tools, and approaches for overcoming the PTSD epidemic.

**Communicating in the Firehouse with Candor and Not Chaos** Mt. St. Helens  
*Candice McDonald, Ph.D., Firefighter/PIO, Sebring & Winona (OH) Fire Department*  
 There is no room for chaos in effective communication. The art of message delivery is key for being effective for both the fire service officer and the department member. This session will help you to gain the skills needed to effectively say anything to anyone in a candid and professional manner. This workshop is interactive and will get you talking, so come ready to implement the strategies provided!

<b>2:45–3:00pm</b>	<b>Break</b> <i>Light refreshments provided, sponsored by Verizon Wireless</i>	
<b>3:00–5:00pm</b>	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS III</b>	

**An Internal Size-Up** 3 Sisters  
*Jeff Dill, LPC, Founder, Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance; retired Captain, Palatine (IL) Rural Fire Protection District*  
 This presentation involves a careful examination of behavioral health awareness for firefighters and EMTs with an emphasis on understanding emotional and physical stressors, communication skills, addictions,

depression, PTSD, suicide, statistics, and retirement. This is an interactive featuring discussion, role-play, and a question and answer session.

**Enlightened Leadership: Modern Leadership Practices for Volunteer Success**

Mt. St. Helens

*Matt Beakas, M.Ed., Middleton (OH) Township Fire Department Chief Ron Kay, Washington (OH) Township Fire Department; Lieutenant & Safety Officer, Toledo Fire & Rescue*

The volunteer service has undergone tremendous change in the past two decades. Has your department grown and evolved with the changing times or is it falling behind? The Enlightened Leadership Team takes an in-depth look at these issues and discusses ways to address, plan, and implement positive changes within your department.

5:00-6:30pm

**NETWORKING RECEPTION**

Adams  
Jefferson &  
EMC Courtyard

Relax and mingle with your peers at a casual social. RSVP required on registration form. *Sponsored by: California Casualty, Columbia Southern University, ESIP/McNeil & Company, FirstForward, Grace Industries, NFPA, Provident, Verizon Wireless*

**Saturday, June 15**

8:00-10:00am

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS V**

**Command Leadership in Implementing and Maintaining Firefighter Mental and Physical Wellness**

3 Sisters

*Anthony Correia, Director of Fire Services, Burlington Township (NJ) Fire Department; Burlington County Hazmat Team*

This program will provide fire department leaders at all levels of the organization the knowledge and tools to either implement or reinvigorate their health and wellness program. It will outline the importance of effective and active leadership to have an effective program and provide resources to assist in developing or improving their program.

**Harassment in the Fire Hall**

Mt. St. Helens

*Donald Cox, Education Specialist, VFIS; Ret. Chief, City of West Des Moines (IA) Fire Department*

This interactive workshop is designed to engage the participants in meaningful dialogue regarding a wide variety of potential harassment situations that can harm individuals as well as your emergency service organization. This program will promote a Respectful Workplace culture and steps to create and maintain that environment in your organization. There is a need for management to create awareness on the issue, develop policies, conduct training and take action when necessary.

10:00–10:15am

**Break**

*Light refreshments provided, sponsored by Verizon Wireless*

**10:15am-12:15pm BREAKOUT SESSIONS V**

**Flawed Situational Awareness Lightening Round**

3 Sisters

*Richard Gasaway, Ph.D., President & Principal Consultant, Gasaway Consulting Group, LLC; Resident Instructor, Executive Fire Officer Program, National Fire Academy*

Flawed situational awareness is consistently identified as one of the leading contributing factors in first responder casualty reports. This course will help attendees understand what situational awareness is, how it is developed, how it can erode, and how to regain it once it has eroded.

**Professionalism: It's Not About Getting Paid**

Mt. St. Helens

*Linda Willing, Consultant and Trainer, RealWorld Training & Consulting; Adjunct Faculty/Curriculum Developer, National Emergency Training Center*

Professionalism is not about being paid. It is about building trust within the organization and the service community that creates a consistent expectation of service and conduct. This workshop will look at how professionalism can be fostered in a fire department as a core value that everyone can support. Through case studies, we will also look at how trust can be damaged and restored.

**12:15-1:15pm**

**Lunch**

Mt. Hood/

*Network over a lunch hosted by the NVFC.*

Mt. Bachelor

**1:15-3:15pm**

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS VI**

**Developing a Peer Support Program**

3 Sisters

*Dena Ali, MPA, Raleigh (NC) Fire Department*

This presentation is designed to teach members and leaders the components of a working peer support program, using the instructor's experience developing the North Carolina Peer Support Team. The course provides an introduction to the techniques of emergency responder psychological first aid as it is provided to firefighters by firefighters.

**Resuscitating the Volunteer Fire Service**

Mt. St. Helens

*David Greene, Ph.D., Deputy Chief, Colleton County (SC) Fire-Rescue*

This presentation examines the naivety of motives to join the fire service, how they transform into fully informed expectations to continue serving and the satisfaction levels among volunteer firefighters. It outlines what is important and what is unimportant to volunteer firefighters and how the various factors involved affect eventual service lengths, utilizing the U.S. Military's successful recruitment and retention efforts as a case study.

**3:15-3:20pm**

**Transition to Closing Session**

**3:20pm-4:00pm**

**CLOSING SESSION**

Mt. Hood/

Mt. Bachelor

*Paul Acosta, Vice Chair, NVFC Health, Safety, and Training Committee*

Join our closing session for a wrap-up of lessons learned, to submit a program evaluation, and to be eligible to win door prizes.