



# 2021 MSFCA Annual Conference

October 20-23, 2021 • DECC, Duluth, MN



I am excited to welcome everyone back in-person at the **2021 MSFCA Annual Conference**. The Annual Conference is a wonderful opportunity to attend a wide variety of educational sessions, while also creating lifelong professional connections with fire service individuals from all over Minnesota. This three-day conference includes a diversity of classes, the Memorial Service, the Awards Banquet, the Vendor Show and activities for partners and families.

Every year the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association looks for ways to create a more beneficial and rewarding conference experience. In addition, Fire Chiefs who are registered for the conference can receive complimentary expo passes and administrative track passes for their department members.

Please encourage your departments to register early so we can adequately plan for space, food and beverages and to take advantage of the lower registration rate. Sign up today and help us make this the best MSFCA Annual Conference yet.

**See you in-person in Duluth!**  
**T. John Cunningham, MSFCA President**

## Opening Symposium

**Thursday, October 21 • 8:15 am – 11:15 am**

### > **It's Still the Best Job in the World: Leading Through Tough Times**

*Chief Rick Lasky and Chief John Salka*

Today more than ever, fire service leaders are facing tougher times. Reduction in funding resources, budget cuts, staffing cuts, unfunded mandates, personnel problems, that whole "culture" thing, and a long list of other obstacles and challenges, all of which have a direct impact on service delivery. On the other hand, nobody said that being the leader was going to be easy. Join Chief Lasky and Chief Salka as they discuss what is actually needed to face these tougher times and how to still enjoy the most incredible profession in the world!

## Closing Symposium

**Saturday, October 23 • 8:00 am – 11:30 am**

### > **In Honor of the Charleston 9: A Study of Change Following Tragedy**

*Dr. David Griffin*

On June 18, 2007, nine firefighters perished in a furniture warehouse fire in Charleston, South Carolina. The engineer of the first-arriving engine, David, relates how this experience has changed organizational culture, response, education, and training on an international level. David gives a riveting account of what he witnessed that day and the crisis that ensued in the fire service and his personal life as well. Attendees will share in not only the pain of this occurrence, but also the triumph reflected in changes in numerous aspects of organizational culture. Also discussed during the course are the signs and symptoms of post-traumatic stress from clinical research and personal experience. From there, stress management techniques and contacts for mental health assistance will be outlined.

and how it can help you and your organization on your personal and professional journey. The 7 characteristics of Principled Leadership from The Citadel will be utilized:

- L - Lead with humility.
- E - Embrace a true, authentic self.
- A - Act and speak with courage.
- D - Develop and value people and resources.
- E - Empower and hold others accountable.
- R - Respect others by building trust and learning from mistakes.
- S - Serve others before self.

The final topic discussed in this course is Principled Leadership

**Registration Information at [www.msfc.org](http://www.msfc.org)**



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## *Schedule at a Glance*

### Wednesday, October 20, 2021

- 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm     **Registration**  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm     **Welcome Reception**

### Thursday, October 21, 2021

- 7:00 am – 6:00 pm     **Registration**  
8:00 am – 8:15 am     **Conference Welcome**  
8:15 am – 11:15 am    **Opening Symposium**

**It's Still the Best Job in the World: Leading Through Tough Times**  
*Chief Rick Lasky and Chief John Salka*

- 11:00 am – 6:00 pm    **Exhibit Hall Open (includes lunch)**  
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm     **Reception in Exhibit Hall**

### Friday, October 22, 2021

- 7:00 am – 2:00 pm     **Registration**  
8:00 am – 11:30 am   **Educational Sessions**
- **Chief's Issues: Sweating the Small Stuff: Keeping Your People Safe and Alive** – Chief Rick Lasky
  - **Emergency Management: Navigating COVID-19**
  - **Health and Wellness: Creating a Healthy and Fit Culture in Your Department:** Aaron Zamzow
  - **Hot Topics: The Three Degrees of Mayday** – Chief John Salka
  - **Lessons Learned**
  - **Professional Development: Today's Training for Tomorrow's Leaders - Part 1: Leadership** – Battalion Chief Anthony Kastros (Retired)
  - **Safety: "It's Just a Routine House Fire" Or Is It?** – Chief Jim Duffy
  - **State Fire Marshal: Are You Ready for 'The Big One'? What to do and When to do it During a Large-Scale Fire** – State Fire Marshal Jim Smith and Division Staff

### Friday, October 22, 2021 *continued*

- 9:00 am – 3:00 pm     **Administrative Support**  
*(complimentary if department's Fire Chief is registered)*
- 11:30 am – 12:30 pm   **Lunch & Business Meeting**
- 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm    **Educational Sessions**
- **EMS: Beyond COVID - Fire Department Opportunities for EMS+** – Chief Hugo Searle
  - **Health and Wellness: Creating a Healthy and Fit Culture in Your Department:** Aaron Zamzow
  - **Lessons Learned**
  - **MnFIRE: Emotional Decon: What You Need to Know to Protect Your Department from the Emotional Hazards of the Job**
  - **Professional Development: Today's Training for Tomorrow's Leaders - Part 2: Command & Tactics** – Battalion Chief Anthony Kastros (Retired)
  - **Safety: "It's Just a Routine House Fire" Or Is It?** – Chief Jim Duffy
  - **State Fire Marshal: Minnesota State Fire Marshal Table Top Consultations** – SFM Division Staff
- 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm     **Memorial Service**  
6:00 pm – 6:45 pm     **Social**  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm     **Awards Banquet**

### Saturday, October 23, 2021

- 8:00 am – 11:30 am    **Closing Symposium**

**In Honor of the Charleston 9: A Study of Change Following Tragedy**  
*Dr. David Griffin*

Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association

6737 W. Washington St., Suite 4210, Milwaukee, WI 53214 • 800-743-0911 • office@msfca.org



# 2021 Annual Conference Registration Form

Only one (1) registration per form. Duplicate the form as needed for additional registrations.

You can also register online at [www.msfc.org/page/annual-conference](http://www.msfc.org/page/annual-conference)

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

MSFCA Conference Registration	Before Sept. 1 <sup>st</sup>	After Sept. 1 <sup>st</sup>
Member Full Conference Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325
Non-Member Full Conference Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$375	<input type="checkbox"/> \$400
Awards Banquet Ticket (Full conference registration receive 1 complimentary ticket)		<input type="checkbox"/> \$40

First time attending the MSFCA Annual Conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will you be bringing a spouse/partner? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you bringing any children, if so how many? \_\_\_\_\_

Total

\$

☐ Credit Card

Name on the card: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check enclosed

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please invoice my department

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
**Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association**  
6737 W. Washington St, Suite 4210  
Milwaukee, WI 53214  
800-743-0911 • [office@msfca.org](mailto:office@msfca.org)

## Annual Conference Events

Please check all that you plan to attend:

☐ Wednesday, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**Welcome Reception**

☐ Thursday, 8:00 am – 11:15 am

**Welcome & Opening Symposium**

☐ Thursday, 11:15 am – 12:15 pm

**Lunch Inside Vendor Show**

☐ Thursday, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

**Reception in Exhibit Hall**

☐ Friday, 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm

**Memorial Service**

☐ Friday, 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm

**Social**

☐ Friday, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**Awards Banquet**

☐ Saturday, 8:00 am – 11:30 am

**Closing Symposium**

## Friday Educational Sessions

(Please select choice #1 and #2 for each, both AM and PM sessions)

Time	#	Title
AM Sessions 8:00 am – 11:30 am		Chief's Issues: Sweating the Small Stuff: Keeping Your People Safe and Alive
		Emergency Management: Navigating COVID-19
		Health & Wellness: Creating a Healthy and Fit Culture in Your Department
		Hot Topics: The Three Degrees of Mayday
		Lessons Learned
		Professional Development: Today's Training for Tomorrow's Leaders - Part 1: Leadership
		Safety: "It's Just a Routine House Fire" Or Is It?
		State Fire Marshal: Are You Ready for 'The Big One'? What to do and When to do it During a Large-Scale Fire
PM Sessions 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm		EMS: Beyond COVID - Fire Department Opportunities for EMS+
		Health & Wellness: Creating a Healthy and Fit Culture in Your Department
		Lessons Learned
		MnFIRE: Emotional Decon: What You Need to Know to Protect Your Department from the Emotional Hazards of the Job
		Professional Development: Today's Training for Tomorrow's Leaders - Part 2: Command & Tactics
		Safety: "It's Just a Routine House Fire" Or Is It?
Full Day Session 9:00 am – 3:00 pm		State Fire Marshal: Minnesota State Fire Marshal Table Top Consultations
		Administrative Support (Complimentary if department's Fire Chief is registered): Admin's name: _____





# 2021 MSFCA Annual Conference

October 20-23, 2021  
DECC • Duluth, MN

**Duluth Entertainment Convention Center**  
350 Harbor Drive  
Duluth, MN 55802

Register online at [msfca.org/page/annual-conference](https://msfca.org/page/annual-conference)

**Make your Hotel Reservations today!**

**Mention you are with the MSFCA to reserve a discounted rate.**

**Holiday Inn & Suites  
Duluth Downtown**  
200 W First St  
Duluth, MN 55802  
218-722-1202

**The Inn on Lake  
Superior**  
350 Canal Park  
Duluth, MN 55802  
218-726-1111

**The Suites Hotel at  
Waterfront Plaza**  
325 S Lake Ave  
Duluth, MN 55802  
218-727-4663

**Radisson Duluth  
Harborview**  
505 W Superior St  
Duluth, MN 55802  
218-491-7111

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