



MONTHLY BUGLE

June 2021

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Academy Training Staff

Academy Administrator
[Wade Walling](#)

Operations Director
[Elizabeth Westfall](#)

Logistic Support Manager
[Bill Huffer](#)

Academy Training Program Manager (districts 1, 2 and 3)
[Mike Parks](#)

Message from the Administrator

As State Fire Marshal Joel Thacker and I travel to volunteer fire departments across the state, one issue rises above all others: How do we attract volunteers willing to join Indiana's volunteer fire service?

External time commitments, family and full-time jobs, as well as the time commitments to train volunteers, often stand in the way or hinder those wanting to join the fire service. One trend that is emerging around the country is making training more accessible by offering online training opportunities and reducing initial training requirements in efforts to increase recruitment of new volunteers.

Both of these topics are currently being worked on by the Fire and Public Safety Academy. Partnering with the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association (IVFA), we will develop a model of training that works for Indiana's volunteer fire service.

In the next few months, there will be more information on how to improve access to more online training opportunities as well as a new training model to reduce the initial training requirement to join a volunteer fire department.

If you are not a subscriber to the Academy's Monthly Bugle, Academy Training Updates or Academy Instructor Updates, please subscribe at the [Academy's webpage](#) under **News/Updates**.

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Wade Walling
Director of Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy

New Funding Opportunities



Academy Program Manager
(districts 4, 5 and 6)
[Megan Thiele](#)

Academy District Field Training Manager (districts 7, 8, 9 and 10)
[Zach Westfall](#)

Academy Certification Staff

Certification Supervisor
[Donna Saine](#)

Program Coordinator
[Regine Johnson](#)

Fire Certifications Technician
[Nichelle \(Shelly\) Elliot](#)

Clerical Assistant
[Teri Dearmin](#)

Upcoming Training Opportunities

- July 17-Sept. 16: Firefighter I - (FF1-210051), Sugar Creek Fire Department (Vigo)
- Aug. 19-Sept. 16: Firefighter I - (FF1-210040), Mongo VFD (LaGrange)
- Aug. 31-Sept. 1: National Fire Academy Fire Investigation for First Responders, The Academy's [MADE@Plainfield Classroom](#)

Public Safety Jobs Dashboard



Two new Fiscal Year 2022 training grants are now available. Please see the notice of funding opportunities for each below.

[FY22 Local Training Support Grant](#): Application deadline - June 25, 2021.

[FY22 Fire Training Infrastructure Grant](#): Application deadline - June 30, 2021.

Academy Hires New Live Fire Instructors

The Academy has hired 20 new 1403 live fire instructors, who along with three Academy program managers, recently completed the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI) 1403 fixed facility live fire training and credentialing process.

Now that their training is complete, they are able to aid local fire departments that hold live fire training events. If you have questions about the assistance Academy instructors can offer, please reach out to your district's Academy program manager (contact information in left column).

Fire Department Spotlight

Jasper Fire Department (Dubois County)



The city of Jasper is located 120 miles southwest of Indianapolis, along IN-56 in Dubois County. Established in 1896, this all-volunteer department and its 38 members provide fire protection and medical response for the city of Jasper and Bainbridge Township, totaling over 32 square miles.

Fire Chief Kenny Hochgesang oversees the day-to-day operations of the department. Chief Hochgesang also serves as the city's code enforcement officer.

A Day to Remember: Telling the Stories of Hoosiers During 9/11

Check out all the current openings on the [IDHS Public Safety Jobs dashboard](#). If your department is hiring and would like to promote the job, submit your information below the dashboard.



This September marks 20 years since the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States. The IDHS Public Affairs staff currently is working on media projects to help tell the stories of Hoosier first responders and emergency management personnel who played an important role during September 2001.

If you have a story to share, please go to [Remembering 9/11](#) and let IDHS know.

The Fire and Public Safety Academy is dedicated to providing outstanding customer service and delivering professional fire and public safety training, education and certification to Indiana's first responders in support of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's mission of protecting the people, property and prosperity of Indiana.

Contact the Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy at
firecertifications@dhs.in.gov