

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
MISSOURI DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY



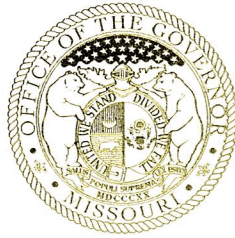
**J. TIM BEAN**  
**STATE FIRE MARSHAL**



**MICHAEL L. PARSON**  
**GOVERNOR**



**SANDRA K. KARSTEN**  
**DIRECTOR**



*Michael L. Parson*

GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MISSOURI

February 16, 2022

Dear Fire Marshal Bean:

Fifty years ago, Missouri's 76<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and Governor Warren E. Hearnes, recognizing the importance of fire safety to the citizens of this state, established the Office of the State Fire Marshal, primarily to assist our fire service in cause and origin investigations. In 1985, the Office was renamed the Division of Fire Safety (DFS).

Since its establishment, DFS, like America's fire service, has continued to advance and take on important new responsibilities. The Division's highly professional service has made a positive difference in the lives of Missourians as they have faced adversity.

In 2011, DFS played an important role in the mutual aid response to Joplin following one of the deadliest and destructive tornadoes in U.S. history. Similarly, DFS played a vitally important role in mutual aid response during the historic 2012 drought, which saw a dramatic and dangerous increase in the number of fires across the state. During my administration, Division personnel have assisted in investigating and combating violent crime in our state. They have also played an integral role in supporting the distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) and staffing mass vaccination events in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

From its 1972 origin as a seven-person fire investigation unit to a statewide force of 70 team members with responsibilities ranging from firefighter training and certification to statewide mutual aid coordination, the Division has always met our state's needs.

I congratulate the Division of Fire Safety for 50 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Missouri and ever-increasing professionalism. An organization is only as good as its people, and the Division's team members have a consistent record of rising to meet whatever challenges are presented. Thank you to all those who have had a positive impact on the people of Missouri.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael L. Parson".

Michael L. Parson  
Governor

**MICHAEL L. PARSON**  
Governor

**SANDRA K. KARSTEN**  
Director



Lewis & Clark State Office Bldg.  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 749  
Jefferson City, MO 65101-0749  
Telephone: 573-751-4905  
Fax: 573-751-5399

STATE OF MISSOURI  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

February 10, 2022

J. Tim Bean  
State Fire Marshal  
Division of Fire Safety  
205 Jefferson Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Fire Marshal Bean:

June 23, 2022 marks 50 years since Senate Bill 487 was signed by Governor E. Warren Hearnes, establishing the Office of the Missouri State Fire Marshal. The Office was charged with three basic responsibilities: assist law enforcement, fire service, and insurance investigators in cases of suspected arson; establish a central records file of suspicious fires; and develop programs to train local fire service agencies in the collection and preservation of evidence. Funding for the fire marshal and six staff members was approved in 1973; in 1974, the Office was transferred to the Department of Public Safety; in 1985, the Office was renamed the Division of Fire Safety.

The name change reflected the continuing expansion of the agency's mission: fire safety inspection responsibilities had been added, then boiler and pressure vessel regulation, followed by implementing and enforcing legislation related to the fireworks industry. Later came responsibilities related to cost-free training of firefighters, elevator safety, amusement ride safety, and other important responsibilities that help protect the health and safety of Missourians.

Throughout its history, Division of Fire Safety team members have accepted their responsibilities with commitment and professionalism. Their work, motivated by the highest ideals of public service, has positively impacted the lives of Missouri's citizens and protected private and public property in immeasurable ways.

Thank you and congratulations on a job well done to the entire Division of Fire Safety team, and all who have served the Division during the last half century.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra K. Karsten". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Sandra K. Karsten  
Director



205 Jefferson Street, Suite 1315  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 844  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0844  
Telephone: (573) 751-2930  
E-Mail: [firesafe@dfs.dps.mo.gov](mailto:firesafe@dfs.dps.mo.gov)  
Website: [www.dfs.dps.mo.gov](http://www.dfs.dps.mo.gov)

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY**

My Fellow Missourians:

After a 37-year career in the fire service and public safety, I was truly humbled to be appointed the Missouri State Fire Marshal on February 16, 2017. Over nearly four decades, I had witnessed the skills and dedication of Missouri's fire service in protecting life and property. I was moved countless times by the bravery and selflessness of our state's firefighters and the fraternity that is at the heart of the fire service.

As I spent time with my new colleagues during my first days at the Division of Fire Safety, the term "drinking from a firehose" was never more appropriate. The Division's responsibilities were varied and complex, but the team's breadth of expertise and institutional knowledge were reassuring. As I came to know our team, I understood they shared the same qualities which define our Missouri fire service – commitment to protecting the public, steadfast dedication to the mission, and putting concern for the safety of others above all else. In sum, I understood the Division of Fire Safety team's commitment and values matched those of Missouri's fire service.

Now, more than five years on, I am proud of the strides we have taken to strengthen our ability to serve both Missouri's fire service, our industry partners, and most importantly the citizens of our great state. Each of the Division's twelve programs has improved efficiencies in processes and enhanced customer service through the deployment of new technologies and equipment. We stand ready to serve as we continue to strive to give you our best each day.

I would like to take this opportunity to express a sincere appreciation to the State Fire Marshals and Division team members who paved our path of progress over the last 50 years. We proudly uphold the traditions of excellence you blazed and move forward into the future with the same commitment to excellence. I also want to thank Governor Mike Parson and Department of Public Safety Director Sandy Karsten for their strong support of our Division. Lastly, a most sincere thank you to our brave men and women of Missouri's fire service, the fire service and public safety communities, and our industry partners who have each tirelessly supported the Division of Fire Safety over the last five decades.

As we commemorate 50 years of the Division of Fire Safety, I invite you to explore our team's history and record of advancement.

Yours in the fire service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Tim Bean".

J. Tim Bean  
Missouri State Fire Marshal



## VISION

The Division of Fire Safety will be recognized as the premier provider for life and fire protection creating a safer environment for the citizens and visitors of Missouri by minimizing the threat of death, injury, and property loss.

## MISSION

The Division of Fire Safety provides proactive statutory enforcement, regulatory oversight and education to protect all lives and property from the devastation of fires, explosions, and life safety perils.

## VALUES

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

We are accountable and transparent to those we serve.

### **INTEGRITY**

We adhere to a strict ethical code.

### **PROFESSIONALISM**

We have a conscientious awareness of our role, image, knowledge, skills, and abilities.

### **FAIRNESS**

We will serve all in a courteous, dignified, and respectful manner.

### **DEDICATION**

We are committed to fulfilling the mandates set forth for the Division of Fire Safety with excellence and professionalism.



## DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY HISTORY

The Office of the Missouri State Fire Marshal was established in 1972 by the 76th General Assembly following extensive lobbying efforts by members of the fire service and fire service organizations around the State including the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri, West Central Firemen's Association, the Missouri Association of Fire Chiefs, and the Missouri Arson Association.

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
**SENATE BILL NO. 487**  
76<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

---

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS WILSON, OWENS, WEBSTER, BRANCATO, STONE  
SKELTON, MERRELL, CASON, PATTERSON, YOUNG, MANFORD, SPRADLING,  
PENTLAND, AND TINNIN

Pre filed December 4, 1971

---

**AN ACT**

Relating to the protection of certain persons and property against  
fires, explosions and other hazards, with penalty provisions.

---

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section 1. As used in this act, unless the context requires  
2 otherwise, the following terms mean:

3 (1) "Dwelling unit". one or more rooms arranged for  
4 the use of one or more individuals living together as a single  
5 housekeeping unit, with cooking, living, sanitary, and sleep-  
6 ing facilities;

7 (2) "Fire loss". loss of or damage to property, or the loss  
8 of life or of personal injury, by fire, lightning, or explosion.

9 (3) "Investigator". the supervising investigators and in-  
10 vestigators appointed under this act;

11 (4) "Owner", any person who owns, occupies, or has  
12 charge of any property;

Senate Bill No. 487 was introduced in the 1972 session by Senator Truman E. Wilson (D-St. Joseph) with 13 additional senators co-sponsoring the bill. The bill provided for hiring a fire marshal, a deputy, four investigators, and a secretary. The fire marshal and his staff were tasked with three basic responsibilities: assist police, fire departments, and insurance investigators in cases of suspected arson; establish a central records file on suspicious fires; and develop programs to train local departments in the collection and preservation of evidence. Funding for the position and staff did not pass until 1973.

On May 15, 1973 Robert Morrison took office as the first State Fire Marshal. Nominated by Governor Christopher Bond, and confirmed by the Senate, the former Lee's Summit Fire Chief set the groundwork for the primary duties performed by this office even today. His insight into the direction of the future needs of the fire service and the safety of the public were instrumental in the agency's development. In a statement made by State Fire Marshal Morrison he said, "I feel like this shouldn't be considered a political job because it's a public safety job and that's the way it will operate."

Fort Osage Fire Protection District Assistant Chief Richard Dyer was appointed State Deputy Fire Marshal, on June 1, 1973. Dyer's fire service experience began at age five when he was named the Buckner Volunteer Fire Department's mascot.

Fire Marshal Morrison divided the State into five districts and appointed four fire investigators to assist departments with fire investigations. The first arson investigators hired by the Fire Marshal were Jack Caparoon, a former member of the Kansas City Fire Department, Thomas Behrendsen, from Liberty, Richard Lehmann, from St. Peters, and Louis Gray, from Hermann. Morrison and Dyer also supervised a 15-county area around Jefferson City. Robin Alders served as the first secretary to the State Fire Marshal in an office at the corner of Missouri Blvd. and U.S. 50, two blocks southwest of the capitol.



*Fire Marshal Robert Morrison*

In 1974 the State Fire Marshal's office was transferred to the Department of Public Safety by the 1974 Omnibus State Reorganization Act. Under this act, the Inspection Unit was established to conduct fire safety inspections of facilities regulated by the Department of Health, Department of Mental Health, Division of Aging, and the Division of Family Services. Inspectors previously under by the Department of Health were transferred to the State Fire Marshal's office. Facilities inspected by the Inspection Unit include assisted living



## DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY HISTORY

centers, residential care facilities, family day care homes, group day care homes, child day care facilities, license-exempt child day care facilities, residential youth facilities, youth day facilities and mental health group homes.



*Inspection and Investigation Staffs, December, 1976*

In 1984, the Division of Fire Safety was assigned the task of enforcing House Bill 1060 which mandates the inspection and issuance of certificates of inspection of all non-exempt boilers and pressure vessels in Missouri. This created the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Unit. The unit enforces rules set forth by the Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessels Rules which is appointed by the Governor.

In 1985, the 83rd General Assembly enacted legislation which gave the State Fire Marshal's Office responsibility for implementing and enforcing rules pertaining to the fireworks industry, including enforcement the laws governing sale and use of fireworks, licensing individuals responsible for public displays, and inspection of sites where fireworks are sold or displayed.

In 1985, the State Fire Marshal's Office became known as the Division of Fire Safety under House Bill 230. The Missouri Fire Safety Advisory Board was appointed by the Governor to advise the Fire Marshal on all matters pertaining to the responsibilities of the Fire Marshal and the Division.

With the enactment of House Bill 230, the Division is appropriated general revenue funds and fees collected from fireworks license holders to provide statewide contracted training courses at no cost. The Division's Training and



*Governor John Ashcroft addresses the group following his signing of House Bill 230, creating the Missouri Division of Fire Safety*



## DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY HISTORY

Certification Unit develops, provides, and oversees the training curriculum used for fire fighters, fire investigators, fire inspectors, fire officers, fire service instructors, responders to hazardous materials incidents, and technical rescue. Each fiscal year the Missouri Fire Safety Education/Advisory Commission meets and assists the Division in reviewing the proposed list of courses for content, currency, and need regionally in the State.

Although certification is not mandatory in the State of Missouri, the Division has issued more than 104,000 certifications at various levels to more than 40,000 people. These certification levels are internationally accredited with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSA) and the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (ProBoard).



*The first Division of Fire Safety Fire Investigator class in Jefferson City, 1986*

House Bill 230 also tasked responsibility of the tabulation of state fire incident reports which gathers information regarding fire losses in the state and provides statistical data to the Division.

The Elevator Safety Act was established with the passage of House Bill 1035 in 1994 and awarded to the Division to implement. The Elevator Safety Board was appointed by the Governor to promulgate rules regarding this act. Missouri's elevator safety rules and regulations require that each elevator and related equipment within the scope of the Elevator Safety Act be registered with the Division and be inspected annually by a Missouri state licensed inspector.

In 1998, the Division was given the responsibility of the investigation of accidents involving amusement rides. Missouri's amusement ride safety program includes both scheduled annual safety inspections and spot inspections. Any owner of an amusement ride wishing to operate in Missouri must provide documentation to the Division indicating that each ride operated by the owner has passed a safety inspection by a State-approved inspector.

The Division was assigned responsibility for overseeing blasters and persons using explosives by the Missouri Blasting Safety Act in 2007. The State Blasting Safety Board, appointed by the governor, has the duty to advise the state fire marshal in the administration of the blasting program. The Division is mandated to investigate possible violations of the Blasting Safety Act upon the complaint of any citizen who believes explosives are being used in a way which endangers the public's safety or property.

In 2009, the Division was mandated by legislation with the enforcement of the State's Fire Standard Compliant Cigarette program. The law mandates that after Jan. 1, 2011, no cigarette shall be sold or offered for sale in Missouri or offered for sale or sold to persons located in Missouri unless the cigarette has been tested and meets the performance standard specified in the statute.

Over the past 50 years, the responsibilities, duty, and personnel of the Division of Fire Safety have grown significantly due to the dedication and commitment of its staff and the ongoing effort to create a safer environment for all citizens.



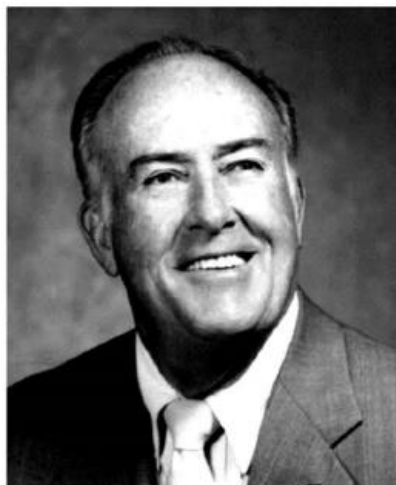


## **Fire Marshal Robert Morrison, 1973-1977**

Robert Morrison was appointed as the first State Fire Marshal by Governor Christopher Bond. Morrison took office on May 15, 1973. Prior to his appointment, Fire Marshal Morrison had served as Fire Chief of the Lee's Summit Fire Department since 1955.

## **Fire Marshal James J. Helbig, 1977-1985**

James J. Helbig was appointed State Fire Marshal effective April 15, 1977, by Governor Joseph Teasdale. He had 18 years fire service experience before his appointment as State Fire Marshal, serving as a fire fighter with the St. Louis Fire Department, Fire Chief of the Crestwood Fire Department, and fire marshal with St. Louis County.



## **Fire Marshal John H. Coburn, 1985-1993**

John H. Coburn was appointed to the position of State Fire Marshal on March 25, 1985, by Governor John Ashcroft. Coburn took office after 36 years with the St. Louis Fire Department. Coburn worked his way up through the ranks of the department, serving as fire fighter, fire captain, Fire Academy assistant chief instructor, battalion chief, and deputy chief of the department.



## MISSOURI STATE FIRE MARSHALS

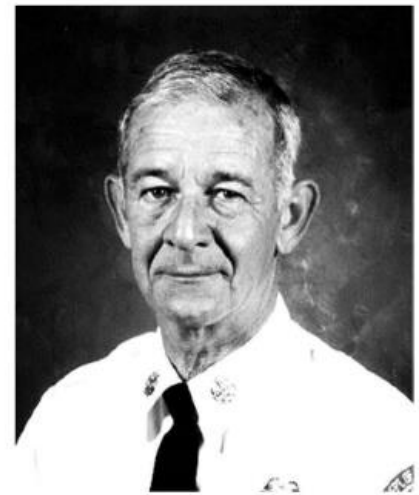


### **Fire Marshal Gail Chatfield, 1993-1995**

Gail Chatfield was appointed Missouri State Fire Marshal by Governor Mel Carnahan on March 4, 1993, following eight years as a Missouri House Representative. Chatfield had served 22 years as fire fighter for the St. Louis Fire Department from 1957 until 1979. He then worked for nearly 15 years with the St. Louis Labor Council and the St. Louis Job Corps.

### **Fire Marshal Edward C. Vineyard, 1995**

Edward Vineyard was appointed as Acting State Fire Marshal by Governor Mel Carnahan in March of 1995. Vineyard had been with the Division for nine years, serving as Assistant State Fire Marshal and Deputy Chief of Training and Inspections. Vineyard served 24 years with the St. Louis Fire Department prior to his employment with the Division, moving through the ranks from private, captain, and as Fire Academy instructor.



### **Fire Marshal William L. Farr, 1996-2005**

On May 1, 1996 William L Farr was officially named as State Fire Marshal by Governor Mel Carnahan. Farr assumed the position of Fire Marshal following the death of Ed Vineyard, from the position of deputy chief of investigations and fireworks. Farr joined the Division in 1986 as an investigator in the Greene County area. Before joining the Division, Farr served as fire chief of the Brookline and Republic Fire Departments and as a Republic police officer.



## MISSOURI STATE FIRE MARSHALS



### **Fire Marshal Randy L. Cole, 2005-2014**

Randy L. Cole was appointed State Fire Marshal by Governor Matt Blunt on April 30, 2005. Cole began his career with the Division of Fire Safety in August 1986 as a fire investigator, regional chief investigator followed by his promotion to Assistant State Fire Marshal. In January 2009 Governor Jay Nixon retained Cole as State Fire Marshal. Prior to joining the Division, Cole served as chief deputy with the Cole County Sheriff's Department. State Fire Marshal Cole retired on April 30, 2014.

### **Fire Marshal Gregory T. Carrell, 2014-2017**

Gregory Carrell was appointed as Acting State Fire Marshal by Governor Jeremiah (Jay) Nixon on May 1, 2014. Carrell had been with the Division for nearly 28 years, serving as Assistant State Fire Marshal and Investigator/Canine Handler. He came to the Division from the City of St. James, Missouri Police Department, where he served as a sergeant. Carrell was also a volunteer firefighter with the St. James Fire Department.



### **Fire Marshal J. Tim Bean, 2017-Present**

J. Tim Bean was appointed State Fire Marshal by Governor Eric Greitens on February 16, 2017. Bean took office after serving as Fire Chief of the West Plains Fire Department for 16 years. With more than 38 years of public safety experience, Bean also previously served the Howell County/West Plains SWAT team, was a reserve deputy for Howell County sheriff's department and West Plains police department.



## APPOINTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

**The Missouri Division of Fire Safety carries out its mission with the assistance of the following boards and commissions:**

### **Missouri Fire Safety Education/Advisory Commission**

*Mission:* To provide training and continuing education to the fire service throughout Missouri

D. Alan Braun, Jefferson City  
Todd E Gray, Fulton  
Brian Zaitz, Saint Charles  
Dan Manley, Lees Summit  
James Ludden, Battlefield  
Traci D. Wiley, Pomona  
Bruce Lipe, PSt Louis  
Gregory Brown, Eureka

### **Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules**

*Mission:* To protect people and property in the State of Missouri from injury or damage that could be caused by the failure of a boiler or pressure vessel.

Bradley T Calvin, Troy  
Gary Rogles, St. Louis  
William Leon Manes, Hillsboro  
Kenneth W. Grissom, Fenton  
Mr. Mark S. Lester, Lesterville

### **Elevator Safety Board**

*Mission:* To promote safety in construction, installation, maintenance, repair and inspection of elevators, dumbwaiters, escalators, material lifts and inclined hoistway enclosures

Sandra K. Karsten, Jefferson City  
Gerri Kielhofner Springfield  
Michele S. Ohmes, Kansas City  
Thomas Corso, Saint Joseph  
John P. Orr, St Charles  
Jim Henry Chapman, Grain Valley  
Suzan Mchalko, Grandview

### **State Blasting Safety Board**

*Mission:* To foster the safe use of explosives in mining and construction by establishing and enforcing consistent statewide industry standards for licensing of blasters and persons using explosives

Ted L. Martin, Branson  
David A. Johnson, Dexter  
Edward J. Twehous, Jefferson City  
Randy M. Wheeler, Joplin  
Keith M. Henderson, Union  
Thomas L. Couch, Sainte Genevieve

### **Amusement Ride Safety Board**

*Mission:* To ensure that amusement rides throughout Missouri are properly inspected and safely operated

Andrew Evans, Kansas City  
James E. Burlingame, Joplin  
David C. Dwyer, Wildwood  
Jeff Ussery, Republic  
Joseph B. Nickell  
Timothy Viox, Columbia



## DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY ADMINISTRATION



The Division of Fire Safety's mission is to provide proactive statutory enforcement, regulatory oversight and education to protect all lives and property from the devastation of fires, explosions and life safety perils.

The Administration Unit serves in a supporting role to twelve statutorily-mandated programs administered by the Division. These statutory-mandated functions are performed by a staff of 67 full time employees, operating on approximately a \$4.8 million dollar budget comprised of general revenue, as well as five dedicated funds.

The Division receives program guidance and oversight from five governor-appointed boards and commissions. Six programs collect fees for various licenses and permits, collectively totaling more than \$1.5 million annually.

The Division proudly supports state, local, and federal agencies and our public and private sector partners as a valuable member of the Missouri Department of Public Safety. In addition to serving Missouri's 847 registered fire departments and nearly 25,000 fire fighters, our constituency includes the six million residents and visitors of our state.

It's safe to say at some time, every resident or visitor is directly impacted by the safety programs provided by the Division; whether through the simple use of an elevator, visiting an amusement park or carnival, the safe production of boiler generated electricity, safeguards against the crime of arson, safety provided to our children at daycares and our loved ones residing in assisted living facilities, or the rapid response of well-trained fire fighters in time of emergent need.

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

**Tim Bean**, *State Fire Marshal*

**Matt Luetkemeyer**, *Asst. State Fire Marshal*

**Sherry Hoelscher**, *Administrative Manager*

**Theresa Turner**, *Administrative Support Professional*

**Donna Moore**, *Human Resources Generalist*

**Dawn Urban**, *Accountant*

**Eric Hartman**, *Mutual Aid Coordinator*



## MUTUAL AID, INCIDENT REPORTING, REGISTRATION

Missouri's Statewide Fire Mutual Aid plan is coordinated from the Division of Fire Safety. The Statewide Fire Mutual Aid Coordinator works with all Missouri fire service agencies, as well as law enforcement and EMS mutual aid counterparts, ensuring seamless operations during large-scale emergency and non-emergency events.



No fire service agency is equipped to deal fully with every potential emergency or disaster. For this reason, many departments have historically had long-standing formal and informal mutual aid agreements to ensure adequate resources are immediately available to assist affected jurisdictions facing incidents that exceed the capacity of local responders. Mutual aid truly means neighbors helping neighbors. Missouri's fire service exemplifies this by its commitment to a system that provides resources to any incident or disaster that may exceed the capabilities of local agencies to respond and recover.

Missouri's statewide fire mutual aid system was first established legislatively in 1990. The first law provided for fire service mutual aid on a statewide basis, and was later amended to include other potential disaster response disciplines, including law enforcement, public health and emergency medical services and public works.

In the event of a major emergency or a statewide disaster, all fire protection agencies in the state become an organizational part of the Missouri Fire Mutual Aid System. Also included in the system are specialized teams and resources, including hazardous materials teams, swift water rescue resources, fire-based medical assets and other technical rescue capabilities.

The system is organized into nine emergency response regions which correspond to the Missouri State Highway Patrol Troop areas. Each region has a fire-based regional coordinator who resides within that region and serves without compensation. The system is based on the tenets of the National Incident Management system, and adheres to the principal that every incident remains under the control of the affected jurisdiction.

Whether in response to flood-stricken communities, the devastation of the 2011 Joplin tornado, widespread wildfires of the 2012 drought, severe winter weather, civil unrest, the COVID-19 pandemic, or other large non-emergency event-based resource coordination, Missouri's mutual aid system has proven to be a dependable and effective program, ensuring emergency response needs are met when lives and property are at stake.



The Division's Fire Mutual Aid Coordinator also manages annual the Fire Department Registration, Donated Equipment, and Radio Frequency Sharing Agreements programs as well as serves as the State Program Manager for the National Fire Incident Reporting System in which fire departments input response information for data collection and prevention purposes.

## INVESTIGATION UNIT



Since 1973 the Division has been mandated to provide fire and explosion related investigative services to Missouri's fire service and law enforcement agencies. Under RSMo 320.320, the State Fire Marshal and his appointed investigators are responsible for investigating incidents involving the possibility of arson or related offenses as requested by the fire service, law enforcement, and prosecuting attorneys within the State.

Investigators with the Division of Fire Safety have an excess of 750 hours of training, including, but not limited to, POST certification, state fire investigator certification, and National Fire Academy training. Investigators are stationed throughout the State and respond to requests for assistance from local fire departments and law enforcement agencies for fire and explosion investigations.

In 1977, the legislature revised the original statutes to give fire investigators the power of arrest for fire related offenses, when investigating the cause, origin, or circumstances of fires, explosions, or like occurrences involving the possibility of arson, or related offenses.

Investigators are trained in several fields of expertise including photography, evidence collection and preservation, Computerized Voice Stress Analysis (CVSA), arson for profit, explosive recognition, and post blast investigations.

In 2021, the Investigation Unit staff investigated 645 incidents with the total estimated dollar loss of \$63,984,730. The Unit also investigated incidents involving 59 fatalities, multiple injuries, and was involved in criminal cases which lead to a total of 36 arrests statewide.

The Investigation Unit is currently comprised of a deputy chief, two regional chief investigators, and 15 investigators supported by an Administrative Assistant.



## INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Investigation Unit also has the responsibility of overseeing the Missouri Blasting Safety Act, which became law in 2007. The Unit tests and licenses blasters and persons using explosives and investigates possible violations of the Blasting Safety Act upon the complaint of any citizen in the State.

In recent years, the Investigation Unit has received a significant investment in equipment to support its mission. Investigator vehicles have been updated to reduce exposure to hazardous carcinogens and better protect personnel. All trucks are now equipped with Mobile Data Terminals which incorporates the new Report Management System, giving investigators access to important information in the field. Each investigator is issued a bullet proof vest and has received new firearms, tactical lights, and holsters along with extensive firearms training. Additional equipment has been issued to each investigator including respirators, updated portable scene lighting, accelerant/hydrocarbon detectors, and debris sifters. These significant investments have resulted in a more effective investigation response to the requests from our fire service and law enforcement partners.



### FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT

**Scott Stoneberger, Deputy Chief**

**Matt Ashby, Fire Investigator**

**James "Jay" Hamilton, Fire Investigator**

**John Pryor, Fire Investigator**

**Brian Baker, Fire Investigator**

**Tyler Anderson, Fire Investigator**

**Stephen Murphy, Fire Investigator**

**Chad Hildebrand, Fire Investigator**

**Robin Jaegers, Administrative Support Professional**

**Grant Wheeler, Fire Investigator**

**Jonathan "Travis" Pugh, Fire Investigator**

**Robbie Sterner, Fire Investigator**

**Randy Sweet, Fire Investigator**

**Ryan Boyle, Fire Investigator**

**Joe Jones, Fire Investigator**

**Adam Crouch, Fire Investigator**



## FIRE INSPECTION UNIT



The Fire Safety Inspection Unit was established within the State Fire Marshal's Office by the 1974 Omnibus State Reorganization Act. Fire inspectors were transferred from the Department of Health and tasked with providing fire safety inspections for childcare facilities and other facilities licensed or certified by various agencies.

Through the years various types of facilities have been added to the program including church-owned and operated day care facilities and 600 long-term care facilities.

Fire safety inspections provide a safer environment for more than 87,000 occupants of long-term care, child care, mental health, youth-at-risk, and foster care homes and facilities located throughout the state. Division Inspectors annually conduct more than 9,500 fire inspections. Inspections are based on a variety of state statutes, promulgated rules, and nationally recognized codes and standards.

Today, the Unit conducts fire safety inspections for facilities and locations which are licensed or certified by several state agencies, including the Department of Health and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Social Services, Senior Citizens Nutrition Centers, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Veteran's Administration.

In 2009, the Fire Standard Compliant Cigarette program was established by legislation and assigned to the Unit. The law mandates all cigarettes sold after January 1, 2011, be tested for fire safety performance. Fees collected provide for the Division's public education program. Division staff enjoy sharing fire safety messages with children and adults at community events across the State.





## FIRE INSPECTION UNIT

In 2021, the oversight of fireworks sales in the state transferred from the Fire Investigation Unit to the Fire Inspection Unit. Fire inspections are conducted at seasonal retail fireworks locations, as well as indoor and outdoor fireworks displays. More than 1,400 fireworks locations are permitted in the state each year. Program revenues are directed to the Fire Education fund which provides for no-cost fire fighter training of Missouri's fire service.



### FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION UNIT

**Greg Dickens**, *Deputy Chief*

**Ron Thompson**, *Regional Chief Inspector*

**Steve Taylor**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Dwight Francis**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Charles Farr, Jr.**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Clay Allison**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Paul Dickman**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Sam "Brian" Lathrom**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Eddie Barton**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Hannah Cullen**, *Administrative Support Assistant*

**Kevin Notz**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Michael Massey**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Bobby Parrish**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Glenn Hurla**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Jeff Collier**, *Fire Safety Inspector*

**Mark Heberlein**, *Fire Safety Inspector*



## TRAINING & CERTIFICATION UNIT

The Division's Training and Certification Unit provides quality training and internationally accepted certification to over 25,000 fire fighters, along with representatives from law enforcement, private industry, emergency response personnel, and other state agencies in Missouri.

Since the Division implemented the certification system for Fire Investigators in 1986, the training unit has expanded to now offer 24 levels of certification in the areas of fire fighter, driver-operator, technical rescuer, fire officer, fire service instructor, incident safety officer, fire inspector, hazardous materials, and fire investigator.



All levels of Division certification are internationally accredited with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (ProBoard).

Emergency response personnel obtaining these accredited certifications assures Missouri's fire service of receiving recognition for their training and certification if relocating to other states or countries.

In addition, the Division is also an approved provider of law enforcement training as recognized by the Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission (POST). This status allows law enforcement personnel to attend Division delivered training and receive credit toward maintaining their commission.



## TRAINING & CERTIFICATION UNIT

The number of individuals trained, tested, and certified by the Division has steadily increased, since the implementation of the certification system. The Division has issued more than 104,000 certifications at various levels to more than more than 40,000 people. The Training Unit has approved more than 3,000 fire instructors to deliver courses, perform evaluations, and administer written certification testing. In August of 2021, the Training Unit transitioned to an online records management system to manage course delivery, testing processes, and issuing of certification in order to better service Missouri's fire fighters.

Overall, the Division is a resource for Missouri's emergency response agencies for obtaining basic and advanced training, as well as internationally recognized certification. The fire service of Missouri has been extremely active in, and supportive of the programs offered by the Division. Departments send personnel to training and certification programs to ensure they receive the latest techniques that could save their life and that of someone else. The Division will continue to provide high quality training and certification programs that meet the needs of Missouri's fire service and other emergency response agencies as we move into the next 25 years.



### **TRAINING & CERTIFICATION UNIT:**

**Rebecca Trapani**, *Deputy Chief*

**Shane Adams**, *Administrative Support Professional*

**Greg Landwehr**, *Training Specialist*

**Justin Merritt**, *Training Specialist*

**Lisa Todd**, *Training Specialist*

**Pete Martin**, *Training Specialist*



## BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL SAFETY UNIT

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act was passed in 1984. The Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Rules was appointed by the Governor and rules were then promulgated with an effective date of November 12, 1986.

The Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Unit was established to prevent injury, loss of life and property damage as a result of boiler and pressure vessel explosions. Under RSMo 650, the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Act, the state is charged with inspecting pressure objects in Missouri and providing a certificate of inspection for those objects which are not exempt by statute.



The Unit is supervised by the Chief Inspector who is responsible for assuring inspections are made of boilers and pressure vessels in our state. There are now seven state inspectors in addition to approximately 50 insurance company inspectors, commissioned by the Chief Inspector, who provide recurring inspections for their insured in Missouri.



The Division's state inspectors presently certify nearly 16,000 objects each year. As of January 1, 2022, 47,000 active objects are registered across our State, with over 102,000 tagged since the inception of the program. These objects include boilers, water-heaters, and pressure vessels. Some exemptions apply to residences and various sizes of water heaters and pressure vessels.

In addition, the Unit provides courtesy inspections of any boiler or pressure vessel that is exempt from the current law, or "hobby" boilers which are operated for pleasure, and will offer assistance to local or state health, building, and fire inspectors upon request.



## BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL SAFETY UNIT

In addition, the Unit provides courtesy inspections of any boiler or pressure vessel that is exempt from the current law, or “hobby” boilers which are operated for pleasure, and will offer assistance to local or state health, building, and fire inspectors upon request.

The Unit is committed to preventing boiler and pressure vessel accidents. Most objects are found to operate safely and are properly maintained. Fortunately, there have been very few injuries and/or fatalities recorded in Missouri since the inspection of the Act.



### **BOILER & PRESSURE VESSEL UNIT:**

**Tim Boggs, *Deputy Chief***

**KimLien Tran, *Administrative Support Assistant***

**Barry Miller, *Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Inspector***

**Vance Adams, *Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Inspector***

**Brian Hodges, *Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Inspector***

**Eric Heitmeyer, *Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Inspector***

**Henry Neurohr, *Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Inspector***

**Gene Reece, *Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Inspector***

**Brad Vincent, *Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Inspector***



## ELEVATOR SAFETY UNIT



In 1994, the 89<sup>th</sup> General Assembly enacted House Bill 1035 creating the Elevator Safety Act. The Division of Fire Safety and the newly created Elevator Safety Board was tasked with the responsibility for the implementation of the program.

The Elevator Safety Program is responsible for enforcing nationally recognized safety standards for the maintenance, inspection, testing, and operation of all elevator equipment. New elevator equipment installations, as well as modifications/alterations to existing equipment, are required to comply with a plan review process based upon the adopted code/standard in Missouri and issue a permit before such work begins. This program also has regulatory authority over the issuance of state licenses to qualified elevator inspectors, mechanics and contractors within the State. The program is charged with enforcing safety rules and regulations, collecting prescribed fees, registering and permitting elevator equipment.

The Elevator Safety Board meets at a minimum four times per year. The Board responds to inquiries from the general public, equipment owners, elevator contractors, and private inspection companies. The Board reviews request for variances on all equipment that is registered and operating in our State.

Division of Fire Safety Elevator Safety Inspectors are responsible for all plan reviews of new installations and conduct acceptance inspections on new equipment prior to permitting. Division Inspectors are QEI (Qualified Elevator Inspectors) as certified by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).





## ELEVATOR SAFETY UNIT

Division staff review work performance of and conduct required annual training for 91 state-licensed elevator inspectors, as well as license and regulate 743 elevator mechanics and 62 elevator contractors who must re-license every 2 years. ASME codes and standards are adhered to stringently in the inspection of all elevator-related equipment in order to ensure the safety of the public.

Currently the Elevator Safety Unit employs a Deputy Chief, three elevator safety inspectors, an executive assistant, and an administrative assistant.



### **ELEVATOR SAFETY UNIT:**

**Augusto Guadamuz, *Deputy Chief***

**Ashley Temmen, *Administrative Support Assistant***

**Mary Holterman, *Support Assistant***

**Melvin “Chuck” Barks, *Elevator/Amusement Ride Safety Inspector***

**Ron Evans, *Elevator/Amusement Ride Safety Inspector***

**Robert Dawes, *Elevator/Amusement Ride Safety Inspector***





# AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY UNIT



Legislation to regulate amusement ride safety was first approved in 1997. The Division of Fire Safety reviews and approves the operation of amusement rides in Missouri to make certain that amusement rides are safe and working properly before being used by the public.

The amusement ride safety program includes both scheduled annual safety inspections and spot inspections. Any owner of an amusement ride wishing to operate in Missouri must provide documentation to the Division indicating that each ride operated by the owner has passed a safety inspection by a state approved inspector within the last 12 month There are approximately 62 certified private amusement ride inspectors that are licensed in our state annually to inspect amusement rides.

Because no staff was appropriated for this program, the Division absorbed the duties by cross-training Elevator Safety Inspectors and Fire Inspectors to conduct these duties. The Governor-appointed Amusement Ride Safety board advises Division staff.

Approximately 1,200 amusement rides are permitted in the State of Missouri each year.



## AMUSEMENT RIDE SAFETY

Augusto Guadamuz, *Deputy Chief*

Melvin "Chuck" Barks, *Elevator Safety Inspector*

Ron Evans, *Elevator Safety Inspector*

Michael Massey, *Fire Safety Inspector*

Ashley Temmen, *Administrative Support Assistant*

Greg Dickens, *Deputy Chief*

Robert Dawes, *Elevator Safety Inspector*

Eddie Barton, *Fire Safety Inspector*

Mary Holterman, *Support Assistant*



## *A Fire Fighter's Prayer*

*When I am called to duty God  
Wherever flames may rage,  
Give me strength to save some life  
Whatever be its age.  
Help me embrace a little child  
Before it is too late.  
Or save an older person from  
The horror of that fate.  
Enable me to be alert,  
And hear the weakest shout,  
And quickly and efficiently  
To put the fire out,  
I want to fill my calling and  
To give the best in me,  
To guard my every neighbor and  
Protect his property.  
And if according to my fate,  
I am called to your house,  
Please bless with your protecting hand  
My children and my spouse.*