

# NAEFO UPDATE



February 21,  
2012

National Association of Elected Fire Officials  
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Website: [www.naefo.org](http://www.naefo.org)

President: Mark Kreutzer Secretary to The Board: Jennifer McDermott

## ***Our Mission***

Our primary purpose is to represent and inform elected officials of national issues and provide assistance to state associations. The Association's Vision Statement is:

*"The National Association of Elected Fire Officials is a forward thinking national organization that speaks with a unified voice for all elected fire officials for the purpose of influencing policies, regulations and legislation relating to the fire service."*

## **NAEFO PARTNERS:**



Emergency Services Consulting  
*International*

[www.esci.us](http://www.esci.us)



[www.columbiasouthern.edu](http://www.columbiasouthern.edu)

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### **UP COMING EVENTS:**

#### **NAEFO BOARD MEETING:**

March 31, 2012 Board Meeting starting at 10:00 AM

Strategic Plan Workshop starting at 12:15 PM

Held at Clark County Fire & Rescue—Station 21, 911 N 65th Avenue, Ridgefield, WA 98642

#### **ANNUAL NAEFO CONFERENCE AND MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING:**

September 24 and 25, 2012

Program held at the Clark County Fire Department Training Center

Host Hotel will be The Orleans Casino & Hotel

Las Vegas, Nevada

For more Upcoming Events, please visit the NAEFO Website at [www.naefo.org](http://www.naefo.org)

## **Board Meeting Reschedule**

Due to schedule conflicts, the April Board Meeting has been rescheduled to Saturday, March 31st.

The meeting will be held at the Clark County Fire & Rescue Station.

The Board Meeting will start at 10:00 AM with the Strategic Plan Workshop starting at 12:30 PM.

## Tell the Senate to Pass Fire Grants Reauthorization

Senators Joe Lieberman (I-CT) and Susan Collins (R-ME) have filed an amendment to legislation that is scheduled to be considered by the U.S. Senate later this week that would reauthorize the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program. The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) strongly supports reauthorizing AFG and SAFER and on Tuesday, along with other national fire service organizations, called on the Senate to pass the Lieberman-Collins amendment.

Contact your U.S. Senators TODAY and tell them to support the Lieberman-Collins amendment to S. 1813 to reauthorize AFG and SAFER.

Article courtesy of NVFC, [www.nvfc.org](http://www.nvfc.org)

## Congress Approves D-Block for Public Safety

On Friday, February 17th, Congress approved legislation to extend the current Social Security payroll tax rate and long-term unemployment benefits before leaving for the Presidents' Day recess this weekend. Included in the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act, H.R. 3630, is a provision to allocate 10 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz bandwidth (known as the D-block) to public safety for the creation of a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network.

The D-block is adjacent to 10 MHz of spectrum currently allocated to public safety, allowing for the creation of the nationwide broadband network on 20 MHz of contiguous spectrum. The bill also provides \$7 billion for construction of the network.

Earlier in the negotiations process, some members of Congress were calling for public safety to relinquish the 14 MHz in the 700 MHz of narrowband spectrum currently allocated for first responder communications. After input from public safety advocates, this provision was rejected, but the legislation would require public safety to relinquish spectrum in the 470-512 MHz band (the T-Band) within nine years.

The legislation also calls for the National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) to supervise the build-out and management of the public safety broadband network.

"This is an important step forward for the creation of a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network," said Bill Webb, Executive Director of the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI). "While public safety didn't get everything we asked for in the agreement reached by House and Senate negotiators, there is no doubt this is a great victory for America's fire and emergency services. I applaud the House and Senate negotiators for putting aside partisan differences to address the needs of public safety and to address one of the last outstanding recommendations of the September 11th Commission."

H.R. 3630 will now go to the White House for President Obama's signature.

Article courtesy of CFSI, [www.cfsi.org](http://www.cfsi.org)

## **Quick Links**

**NAEFO** [www.naefo.org](http://www.naefo.org)

Arizona Fire District Association [www.afdanews.org](http://www.afdanews.org)

Fire District Association of California [www.fdac.org](http://www.fdac.org)

Idaho State Fire Commissioners Association [www.isfca.org](http://www.isfca.org)

Missouri Association of Fire Protection Districts [www.mafpd.org](http://www.mafpd.org)

Oregon Fire District Directors Association [www.ofdda.com](http://www.ofdda.com)

Washington Fire Commissioners Association [www.wfca.wa.gov](http://www.wfca.wa.gov)

Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York [www.firedistnys.com](http://www.firedistnys.com)

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Questions or comments, email us at [jen@naefo.org](mailto:jen@naefo.org) or call 877.479.6629

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