

# New Jersey State Volunteer Firemen's Association

100 Sherman Blvd., Edison, NJ 08820 (732) 548-5496

Web-Site [www.njsvfa.org](http://www.njsvfa.org)

Charles Siedenburger, President  
121 Oak Manor Parkway, So. Plainfield, NJ 07080  
Phone (908) 757-7370

Eugene A. Enfield, Sr., VP; Treasurer  
596 Jamaica Blvd., Toms River, NJ 08757  
Phone (732) 244-6095 Fax (732) 244-6095

George Roell, Secretary  
100 Sherman Blvd., Edison, NJ 08820  
Phone (732) 433-5326

Richard Dries, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
212 Kentucky Trail, Browns Mills, NJ 08015  
Phone (609) 893-8797

George H. Heflich, Sr., 1<sup>st</sup> NJ Director of the National Volunteer Fire Council, Cell (201) 983-3517 Home (201) 863-3665  
Eugene A. Enfield, Sr., 2<sup>nd</sup> NJ Director of the National Volunteer Fire Council, Cell (732) 814-1577 Home (732) 244-6095  
Charles Siedenburger, Commissioner New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, Cell (908) 834-7738 Home (908) 757-7370

The next quarterly meeting of the New Jersey State Vol. Firemen's Association will convene on Feb. 24, 2019 at the Manitou Park Vol. Fire Co. Station 18 at 110 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Toms River, NJ 08757. Directions: GSP south Exit #80, keep left at stop sign turn right pass traffic light to 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. turn left 3<sup>rd</sup> block on left side. Coming from south GSP Exit #81. Turn left over GSP Bridge back onto GSP South follow above directions.

## Minutes of the October 7, 2018 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Charles Siedenburger at 10:35 am at the **South Plainfield, 123 Maple Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080**, by President Siedenburger led the pledge of Allegiance to our flag and a moment of silence for our fallen firefighters. He then identified the emergency exits.

**Secretary George Roell** took the roll call

**Reading of the June 24, 2018 meeting** was accepted as written on the web-site, with a motion by Mike Maharshi, seconded Richard Dries. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report:** Eugene Enfield gave the following report:

Colombia Stock 100 shares @cost \$10.00	\$ 1,000.00
CD Colombia Savings 1.5% due 10/25/2020	\$10,477.25
CD Colombia Savings 1.4% 12/10/19	5,303.11
CD Colombia Savings 2.75% due 7/2/2021	7,000.00
TD Savings	2,007.76
TD Checking (\$ 13,521.02 + Dues Collected \$2,315 (91 + 1 \$40)	15,836.02

### Disbursements:

Check # 177 Columbia CD 2.75% 36 months	7,000.00
Check # 178 Charles Siedenburger, President 2017 stipend	100.00
Check # 179 Eugene Enfield, Treasure stipend	100.00
Check # 180 George Roell Secretary stipend	100.00
Check # 181 George Helflich, Sr., Fall Meeting Bismarck, ND	918.72
Check # 182 George Roell postage & supplies	133.89
Check # 183 Eugene Enfield, Sr., Stamps & Business cards & Exp.	222.28
E-check NJ State Treasury Annual Report	25.50
Check # 184 NVFC 2018 Annual Dues	500.00
Check # 185 (Shelter Cove Embroidery Co.) Web-Site	120.00

\$9,226.39    \$ 9,226.39                    6,609.63

Total Assets \$32,397.75

Motion to accept treasurer report and pay all bills made by Lou Roell seconded by Mike Mocharski. Motion carried.

**Special Guest:** Joseph Hankins Vice President NJSFA sent an e-mail we could not attend, President NJ State Exempt Association Elisa Fantozzi told me she would be at our meeting; however, she was a no-show. No County Executive Committeeman, or Board of Managers from the Firemen's home were at the meeting. - **Brenda Di Somma of American income Life Insurance** was present. Brenda mentioned that the organization memberships are not filling out the cards for the \$4,000.00 Insurance. With a bad fee-back the company will be dropping our organization for the free \$4,000.00 insurance policy to its firefighters in New Jersey. She mentioned that she sent out thousands to either the Chiefs or Secretary of the fire companies throw-outs the state with poor responds. She asks if we had any other way to get the members to sign up. I was hoping the state leaders would be at our meeting.

Eugene Enfield had mentions that members joining the NVFC for \$15.00 this year and \$18.00 next year that members are covered with a \$10,000 AD&D insurance policy (doubles to \$20K LODD) through providence. Many other benefits are available for members.

**Communication & Correspondence:** (1) Letter dated July 11, 2018 to Computershare Investor Service, dealing with **change of address for stock in Columbia Financial, Inc.** (2) **Resolution** authorizing change of address from Toms River to Edison, NJ. (3) **Change address on Bank accounts.** (4) **Letter from Brenda Di Somma of American income Life Insurance paying off claim for member Willard L. Stockton for accidental death. Two checks were written, each son receiving \$1,333.33 to Todd J. Stockton, Gregory T. Stockton, and David M. Stockton receiving \$1,333.34, for a total of \$4,000.00.**

**Committee Reports: NVFC (a) Directors** George Heflich, Sr., and Eugene Enfield Sr. Represented both NJSVFA and NVFC organizations at **Eagle Scout Court of Honor** for Junior volunteer firefighter and EMT Matthew Kustup held on October 6, 2018 at Tabernacle Fire Company #1, 76 Hawkin Rd., Tabernacle, NJ 08088.

**(b) NVFC Fall Meeting** Sept. 19 thru Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at Bismarck, North Dakota. George H Heflich, Sr. was placed on three committee for 2019; Diversity & Inclusion; Legislative; and Recruitment & Retention Committees. The committees met several times during the year either thru telephone or at meetings.

**Meeting** was held in **Bismarck North Dakota** for fall Seminar did not start off great for me. Suppose to leave Newark at 8:05 left 8:35 to Chicago and after an Hour out we were diverted to Detroit where we sat for 35 minutes due to a problem in Chicago, plane was re-fueled and back to Chicago again arriving almost 2 hours late missed connecting flight and had to wait for another 2 hours to get to Colorado and due to the Delay missed that connecting Flight another 2and Half hour wait and finally got into Bismarck at midnight, got to hotel my room was given away they took me to another hotel.

The main function of the N V F C is to benefit the Fire Service with getting Grants for Training, Financing, Education, First Responder Suicide Tracking, Preventing Cancer in the Fire Service through Legislation'

North Dakota has over 70,000 of their members in the NVFC most of any other State, there are over 200,000 memberships in the NVFC

Meetings was held on Suicide, Cancer, Recruitment & Retention, Diversity & inclusion, Legislation, I am on 3 of those Committees

I spoke on the **Firefighter Registry Act of 2018** in July in Englewood Fire Headquarters, **This Bill is not a Cure for Cancer** it directs the Secretary of Health and human Services to develop a registry to collect health and exposure information about a group of Firefighters on a Voluntary basis, if any of them did contact cancer their profile in the registry would be linked to information about them in the existing Country Cancer registries which capture more than 99% of Cancer cases currently.

LAVENDER RIBBON REPORT ELEVEN Best Practices to Help PREVENT CANCER, it must be made part of Firefighter 1 in our Fire Schools

**Honoring Hometown Heroes act and Medal of valor 911 Heroes H R 3834** became laws, I left a copy of the bills in Washington with the President.

I also attended and spoke a meeting at Bergen County Community College on August 28 on **Bill # H R 1550**, this bill would Exempt From federal Taxation from \$360 up to 600 Dollars for recruitment and retention incentives for volunteers and additionally a 1year exemption is included in the Retirement Enhancement and Savings Act H R 5282.I have not received any new correspondence on this Bill by Congressman Pascrell office, I sent 2 E Mails to his aid Dylan Sodaro.

# New Jersey State Volunteer Firemen's Association

100 Sherman Blvd., Edison, NJ 08820 (732) 548-5496

Web-Site [www.njsvfa.org](http://www.njsvfa.org)

Charles Siedenburg, President  
121 Oak Manor Parkway, So. Plainfield, NJ 07080  
Phone (908) 757-7370

Eugene A. Enfield, Sr., VP; Treasurer  
596 Jamaica Blvd., Toms River, NJ 08757  
Phone (732) 244-6095 Fax (732) 244-6095

George Roell, Secretary  
100 Sherman Blvd., Edison, NJ 08820  
Phone (732) 433-5326

Richard Dries, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
212 Kentucky Trail, Browns Mills, NJ 08015  
Phone (609) 893-8797

George H. Heflich, Sr., 1<sup>st</sup> NJ Director of the National Volunteer Fire Council, Cell (201) 983-3517 Home (201) 863-3665  
Eugene A. Enfield, Sr., 2<sup>nd</sup> NJ Director of the National Volunteer Fire Council, Cell (732) 814-1577 Home (732) 244-6095  
Charles Siedenburg, Commissioner New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, Cell (908) 834-7738 Home (908) 757-7370

**Committee Reports: NVFC** - Last year there were 286 Suicides that were reported that they have on record, Volunteers are more at risk due to the number of Volunteers getting Post Traumatic Stress or Trauma by Responding to Fires and Emergency that contributes to health issues including Suicides. We respond to Accidents, Fires, Shootings with injuries, or deaths, we have counseling available, in rural areas there are not counselors always to bring in. Be aware when their moods or attitudes will change, not joyful, quiet, not talking to a brother fire fighter about what is on their mind, and then they will take those problems home, not sleeping properly, eating regular meals and again not saying anything. **I know it's hard, but we must start looking out and helping each other.** I brought down flyers to put in each Fire House" Share the Load ", Which Firefighter do you want to be, also a Firefighter who is inclusive. When you post them in your Fire house make sure they are always visible

#### **Joint Anti-Harassment and bullying Statement**

Ari Rothrock spoke for 2 hours on Harassment and Bullying while she was in the Fire Service, and Travels all over the U.S. and out of the Country, has even wrote a book, **'On the job and off'**.

She left church on a Sunday morning at 16 years of age with her parents and decided that she wanted to join the Fire Department and stopped by and was told to stop by next Sunday. She stopped by the next Sunday and they found some oversized gear and gloves and they started a bail of hat in their shed in the back and told her to go inside with a pack on untrained, they never asked her any questions told her to fill out an application and bring it back. During the time there they never trained her, hardly talked to her, had nude pictures on the wall with a picture of her face, went to a working fire with the same gear and pack, when they arrived the Chief told her to take the pack off and put it on the ground in the snow, with the only source of water was a frozen Fire hydrant. They went house to house and got hot water from the Houses in the Area and it melted the ice and they got water. they hooked a line to the hydrant told her to put her pack on again and go into the fire alone still untrained, what she did not know they ran the air out of her tank and luckily she found her way out right away, no one talked to her or answered any of her questions and still did not tell her parents, graduated High School and went to college, in the East and went to the nearby fire house for 3 days and on the third day 3 firefighters came in drunk and tried to rape her. She wrote 80 journals of her experience in the fire service. Some things in those journals, everything that happened to her was her fault, the firefighters can't be trusted, world is not a safe place, still never told her parents, went to the police, they told her don't stay there, now she feels anger, Isolation, Sadness, Confusion, Shame, was not sleeping or eating properly staying home and got hives being stubborn. She again never asked for help. She knew a Consoler in the area and left a message and the Consoler called her the next day and went to see her, after talking to her for 1 Hour she was told to come back next week and was told she has Post Traumatic Stress Disorder with her mood Changes, Acute Stress, Mental and Health Fatigue. She made a point to say **"When you need help seek it, you are not Superman"**. She never told us where those firehouses were, I gave her my card to send me a book

Boots on the ground The NVFC was awarded a Safer Grant to help Recruit and retain Firefighters for 2.8 Million Dollars for a span of 4 years. Volunteers make up 70 % of the fire service and are struggling to maintain staffing. Statistics show that the Volunteer Fire Service is ageing and not enough new and younger people joining. **Through thig grant the NVFC Devolved the Research-Based Make Me A Firefighter Campaign. Remember "Inadequate staffing poses significant Health and safety risks to both the Firefighter and the Community they are trying to protect.** Make aware of the Critical need for Volunteer Firefighters, put signs in your Community Center, Church, Recreation Center, On the Web, Handouts.

**Members joining the NVFC, there are Grants, if you have College Loans you only must pay back up to 10 years no interest like you are a Government Employee, Share the Load, Financing, Health, Suicide all at that same # to call on Cards in the front.**

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier spoke on the problems they had when attempting to put that pipe line in to transport broken oil through 5 states to Texas. The rioting and Arson lasted 267 days at a cost of over 32 Million Dollars that the Federal Government refused to pay. The County only had 20 Deputy's, brought in help from surrounding states, had to use water from their deck Guns to control the crowd. They burned down all their homes on private land where they were living illegally. The Government refused to fund the money

they spent, North Dakota and Private donations raised the money. Paradigm Company was putting the pipe line in, I was told that the owner of Sunoco is the man.

## **Committee Reports: NVFC**

The second evening we were invited to visit Kusters Home and after we were fed Bull Steaks by the North Dakota F.D. great evening. There are also cards upfront if anyone has ideas on improving the gear or other ideas call the # on the card, they may be able to use your ideas.

In those California fires, 7 Firefighters were killed so far, one of them was a Chief from Utah, while dropping the repellent from an aircraft the bulk of it was dropped on a tree toppling it on the Chief and it Killed him.

**(2) Commissioner New Jersey Div. Fire Safety Charles Siedenburg -** Charles mentioned he was placed on Training and Education Committees. The state is working with the NFPA rules and are trying to have bills pass for Jr. firefighters to have training with power tools and life burn.

**(3) New Jersey Firemen's Association-No report**

**(4) Firemen's Home – No report**

**(5) Legislative Committee. No report**

**(6) NJ Exempt Firemen's – No report**

## **Deferred Business:**

- (1) NJ Fire & Emergency Medical Service Institute-** Charles Siedenburg mentioned he hasn't heard, and we should ask for our \$200.00 dues money paid for annual dues should be refunded.
- (2) table inside convention hall to let all members know about NVFC and NJSVFA.** For \$15.00 a year each member would be covered for \$10,000 AD&D insurance through Provident plus many other benefits.
- (3) Our association did not receive a copy of add book from NJ State Exempts, which we paid \$200.00 for a full ad.** We expect a book, if we place an ad to help the exempt organization.

## **New Business:**

- (1) Treasurer made a motion to have the organization pay for the update of Microsoft 365 update annually of \$107.00, as he is using the programs for the NJSVFA. He also uses Quick Books for the Association.** Motion was seconded by Lou Roell. Motion carried.

### **Election of Officers & Two Directors to NVFC**

President	Charles Siedenburg:	Trustee 2 yrs. 2021	Lou Roell
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President & Treasurer	Eugene Enfield, Sr.	Trustee 1 yrs. 2020	George Heflich, Sr.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Richard Dries	Trustee 3 Yr. 2022	Richard Dries
Secretary	Brian P. Foley		
1 <sup>st</sup> Director to NVFC	George Heflich, Sr.		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Director to NVFC	Brian P. Foley		

Lou Roell made a motion to nominate the following officers from all names above Second by Eugene Enfield, Sr. Motioned carried. There were no other nominations. President Siedenburg closed nomination and ask Sec'y Roell to cast one vote for all office  
Motion carried

**Good & Welfare – None reported**

# New Jersey State Volunteer Firemen's Association

100 Sherman Blvd., Edison, NJ 08820 (732) 548-5496

Web-Site [www.njsvfa.org](http://www.njsvfa.org)

Charles Siedenbug, President  
121 Oak Manor Parkway, So. Plainfield, NJ 07080  
Phone (908) 757-7370

Eugene A. Enfield, Sr., VP; Treasurer  
596 Jamaica Blvd., Toms River, NJ 08757  
Phone (732) 244-6095 Fax (732) 244-6095

George Roell, Secretary  
100 Sherman Blvd., Edison, NJ 08820  
Phone (732) 433-5326

Richard Dries, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
212 Kentucky Trail , Browns Mills, NJ 08015  
Phone (609) 893-8797

George H. Heflich, Sr., 1<sup>st</sup> NJ Director of the National Volunteer Fire Council, Cell (201) 983-3517 Home (201) 863-3665  
Eugene A. Enfield, Sr., 2<sup>nd</sup> NJ Director of the National Volunteer Fire Council, Cell (732) 814-1577 Home (732) 244-6095  
Charles Siedenbug , Commissioner New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, Cell (908) 834-7738 Home (908) 757-7370

**Adjournment:** motion made by Eugene Enfield seconded by Rich Dries to adjourns at 12.20. Motioned carried.

Respectfully submitted:

*George Roell, Secretary*