

January 2021

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Academy Training Staff

Academy Director
[Wade Walling](#)

Operations Director
[Elizabeth Westfall](#)

Logistics Support Manager
[Bill Huffer](#)

Academy Training Program Manager
[Paul Bradley](#)

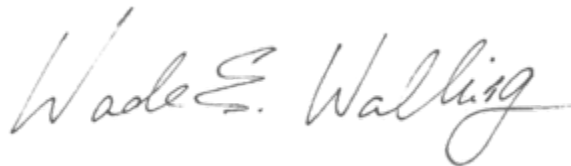
Message from the Academy Director

Hello, 2021! With the new year now underway, I want to issue an important reminder about responsibly using social media while serving on the job.

As firefighter and EMS professionals, we are trusted by our employers and community to be cognizant of protecting their confidentiality. Posting pictures on social media of emergency scenes, information about house fires, vehicle accidents or even of patients is an easy way to break the trust we have developed.

Always consider if your social media posts are morally and ethically reasonable. When in doubt, ask your department's public information officer for guidance on what is appropriate to share.

Remember, social media posts are like water flowing out of a fire hose: you can never put the water back in. It only takes one wrong post to ruin everything for which you have worked and trained.



Wade Walling, Director of Indiana Fire and Public Safety Academy

Alternative Heating Safety



State Fire Marshal Joel Thacker and Indianapolis Fire Marshal Michael Beard have teamed up with Fire Pup at [Survive Alive](#) to teach Hoosiers how to practice proper alternative heating safety. Share tips with the community on how to keep warm and safe this winter season!

Academy District Field Training Manager (districts 5, 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](#)

Instructor Course Template Materials

Instructors can always locate and access the most updated course template materials in Acadis, including lead instructor and lead evaluator templates.

Follow the steps below to locate course template materials in Acadis:

1. On the home page, hover over the "Training and Events" tab and click "Browse or Signup for Training."
2. Click on the "Filters" button in the top right corner. In the "Keyword" box, enter "Instructor Material."
3. Register for the instructor material(s) in the list shown.

After registering for materials, they can be accessed at any time. Instructors should review documents prior to submitting them for their classes.



Grant Writing Symposiums & Workshops

Academy Grant Writing Symposiums

The Academy will be hosting two online grant writing symposiums for fire departments and grant writers to learn more about grant application processes and opportunities to receive state and federal funding.

The symposiums will occur via Microsoft Teams on the following days:

- Thursday, Jan. 28 (7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. EST)
- Saturday, Feb. 6 (10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. EST)

Register for these symposiums in [Acadis](#).

FEMA AFGP Workshops

FEMA is offering workshop webinars for applicants interested in learning how to apply for funding under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Programs (AFGP).

These workshops are scheduled to take place via Zoom on the following days:

- Jan. 19 (1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST)
- Jan. 21 (3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST)
- Jan. 26 (1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST)
- Jan. 28 (3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST)

Workshop registration links can be found on the [FEMA](#) website.

IDHS Fire Investigations

Did you know the IDHS Fire Investigations section is a resource that Indiana fire departments and law enforcement agencies may call on to assist with the investigations of fires and explosions that occur in Indiana? The section has [12 fire investigators](#), and each investigator is assigned a region of the Indiana to cover (but they can respond anywhere within state to offer support).



Learn more about the resources and services they can provide to Indiana fire departments [here](#).

Fire Department Spotlight

Aurora Fire Department (Aurora, IN)

FDIC International Postponed to August 2021

FDIC International, originally scheduled for April 19-24, 2021, has been postponed to August 19-24, 2021. Its location will still be at the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium.

For more information, visit the [FDIC International](#) website.

The Aurora Fire Department (AFD) is an all-volunteer fire department that includes 35 members who respond to 400 runs each year. Located in the city of Aurora, the AFD is a combination of two former fire companies that existed in the city during the late 1800s. Combining into the present-day AFD in 2003, this fire department provides fire, rescue and extrication protection services for roughly 8,000 Hoosiers in approximately 25 square miles.



AFD's Engine 516, a 2010 E-One Typhoon Pumper. This former demo apparatus is equipped with a set of TNT extrication tools and a 10 kW generator.

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**