



Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION

18345 Colonel Henry K. Douglas Drive
Suite 240

Hagerstown, MD 21740

301-766-3899

Fax 301-766-3889

Toll Free 877-890-0199



Colonel William M. Pallozzi
Secretary

C. Daniel Davis, Jr.
Chairman

September 11, 2017

The Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor, State of Maryland
100 State Circle
Annapolis MD 21401

Honorable Governor Hogan:

On behalf of the members of the Fire Prevention Commission, I am pleased to provide you the Commission's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2017.

Should you have any questions or would like any additional information concerning activities of the Commission, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

C. Daniel Davis, Jr.
Chairman

CDD:hr

cc: Colonel William M. Pallozzi
State Fire Marshal Brian S. Geraci
Sarah Albert, Dept. of Legislative Services

Enclosure

MARYLAND
STATE FIRE
PREVENTION
COMMISSION



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

FISCAL YEAR 2017
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

MSAR #2029
Commission No. SP-0156

PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE TITLE 6-201:

The State Fire Prevention Commission was established in 1964 and consists of nine (9) members appointed to a maximum of two five-year terms by the Secretary of the State Police, with the approval of the Governor in accordance with Public Safety Article Title 6-201. The following members served on the Commission in FY 2017:

C. Daniel Davis, Jr. Chairman Term Expires June 30, 2020*	<i>Southern Maryland Volunteer Fire Company</i>
Mark. F. Hubbard Vice Chairman Term Expired June 30, 2017**	<i>Central Maryland Career Fire Company</i>
Mark. A. Bilger Term Expires June 30, 2019	<i>Western Maryland Volunteer Fire Company</i>
K. C. Harrington Term Expires June 30, 2018*	<i>Eastern Shore Building Contractor</i>
Joseph L. Scheffey Term Expires June 30, 2022*	<i>Washington-Metropolitan Industry Representative</i>
Anthony J. Spencer Term Expires June 30, 2019*	<i>At-Large Member of the Public</i>
Edward S. Tochterman, Jr. Term Expires June 30, 2021	<i>At-Large Industry Representative</i>
Stacy N. Welch Term Expires June 30, 2022*	<i>At-Large Architect/Engineer</i>
Richard L. Yinger Term Expires June 30, 2018*	<i>At-Large Volunteer Fire Company</i>

*Second Term – Not eligible for reappointment

**Second term expired – Serving until replaced

The Fire Prevention Commission may be contacted as follows:
Maryland State Police/Western Operations Center
18345 Colonel H.K. Douglas Drive, Suite 240
Hagerstown MD 21740
Telephone: 301-766-3899
Toll-Free: 877-890-0199
Fax: 301-766-3889
E-Mail: msp.sfpc@maryland.gov
Website: <http://sfpc.mdsp.org>
Secretary: Heidi Ritchie

PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE TITLE 6-204:

The Commission is mandated to hold a minimum of six regular meetings every year. A quorum was achieved at all meetings. All members met the attendance requirements. Public meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted at the Commission's website: <http://sfpc.mdsp.org>

FISCAL YEAR ATTENDANCE ROSTER						
MEETING DATES LOCATION & MEMBERS	8/18/16 Laurel	10/20/16 Annapolis	12/15/16 Sparrows Point	2/18/17 Annapolis	4/20/17 Annapolis	6/20/17 Ocean City
BILGER	P	P	A	P	P	P
DAVIS	P	A	P	P	P	P
HARRINGTON	P	P	A	P	A	P
HUBBARD	A	P	P	P	A	P
SCHEFFEY	P	P	P	A	P	P
SPENCER	P	P	A	P	A	A
TOCHTERMAN	P	P	P	P	P	P
WELCH	P	P	P	P	P	A
YINGER	P	P	P	P	P	A

P=Present A=Absent

PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE TITLE 6-205:

The Commission is authorized to make recommendations to the Secretary of State Police about the daily operations of the Office of the State Fire Marshal, including recommendations about budget and personnel matters. Chairman Davis and Vice Chairman Davis met with Secretary of State Police William Pallozzi to discuss personnel, salary, vehicle, equipment, and funding concerns of the Office of the Fire Marshal. Secretary Pallozzi was receptive to their concerns and also attended a Commission meeting to discuss these issues further.

PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE TITLE 6-501:

The Commission is empowered to hear appeals filed by a person who is aggrieved by an order or decision of the State Fire Marshal or his designee in the course of enforcing the State Fire Prevention Code. The Commission heard no appeals in FY 2017.

PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE TITLE 6-205:

The Commission is mandated to promote and conduct seminars, conferences, workshops and meetings at least once each year to inform the public and firefighting personnel of the latest techniques in fire prevention programs and procedures, life safety measures, changes in the State Fire Prevention Code, and development of improved fire and life safety goals.

The Fire Prevention Commission co-sponsored the Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference held September 27, 2016, in Laurel, Maryland. This annual conference offers a variety of safety oriented workshops presented by some of the nation's leading fire and emergency services professionals. Approximately 250-300 persons attend this annual event, including several Commission members. Commissioner Mark Bilger served on the 2016 Conference Steering Committee.

PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE TITLE 6-206:

The Commission is empowered to promulgate, amend, and repeal regulations for the safeguarding of life and property from the hazards of fire and explosion and to hold public hearings pertaining to such regulations. Code of Maryland Regulations as promulgated by the Commission may be viewed at the Commission's website: <http://sfpc.mdsp.org>

At the recommendation of the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Commission unanimously voted to accept the recommendation to amend COMAR 29.06.05 Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Regulations. These limited amendments would allow specialized installation and service personnel to perform limited duties under their specific purview of expertise and allow for the use of digital signatures and seals on documents. The proposed amendments are currently in the process of formal adoption.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Throughout the year, Commission members attend and participate in a variety of activities and serve on committees involving fire prevention education, fire and emergency services, and code enforcement.

Maryland State Firemen's Association

Chairman Davis, Commissioner Yinger, and Commissioner Bilger serve on a variety of committees under the auspices of this association. Commissioner Bilger was elected president of the association in June 2017. The association membership is comprised of volunteer departments from throughout the State whose mission is to serve, promote, advocate and represent the interests of the volunteer fire, rescue, and emergency medical services of Maryland. Several commission members attended and participated in the association's annual convention in Ocean City.

National Fire Protection Association

Commissioner Stacy Welch serves as a member of the National Fire Protection Association's Board of Directors. NFPA board members are chosen from various disciplines and backgrounds and are elected based on experience in business, finance, or administration; respect of peers; respect as a member of the safety community; commitment to the Association's goals; and appreciation for the relationship NFPA must maintain with the changing needs of society. Commissioner Welch is Vice President of Fire Protection and Life Safety for Marriott International.

Maryland Society of Professional Engineers

Commissioner Joseph Scheffey serves on the Board of Directors for the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers. The organization is tasked with advancing and promoting the public health, safety and welfare through developing professional concepts and continuing competence among engineers.