



# DELAWARE STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION

## FALL 2025 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

### *Letter from the Chairman:*

As we step into Fall, we reflect on a year of growth, resilience, and commitment to protecting Delawareans. From groundbreaking milestones to strengthening EMS oversight, our work continues to focus on safety, service, and stewardship.

- Ronald Marvel, Chairman

### *New Building Update*

Building is progressing, Brick work is done, Drywall is going up and all data, security and camera wiring is ongoing. Metal on the outside should go up in October and the Completion date is projected for the beginning of February.

### *At a Glance - 2025 Highlights*

- 12 Commission Meetings and 113 Committee Meetings held
- 155 Firefighter Injury Reports tracked to improve training & safety
- 844 EMT Certifications and 442 EMT Recertifications issued
- 469 Ambulance Licenses Renewed ensuring readiness statewide
- 63 Fire Company Audits Received
- 459 EMT Background Checks and 428 Firefighter Background Checks
- 50 EMT Verifications

### *Compliance & Safety Snapshot*

#### Ambulance Inspections:

- New Castle: 57
- Sussex: 106
- Kent: 78
- Private: 102

#### Inspection Outcomes:

- Watchful: 139 | Cautionary: 82 | Critical: 6 | Removed: 0



# September is National Service Dog Awareness Month

The Delaware State Fire Commission would like to thank Governor Matt Meyer for officially proclaiming the month of September as National Service Dog Awareness Month in the State of Delaware, recognizing the vital role service dogs play in supporting individuals with disabilities, as well as the growing role they serve in helping first responders manage stress and trauma on the job.

The Governor's proclamation shines a spotlight on the life-changing impact service dogs have across communities and professions. From guiding individuals who are visually impaired to alerting those with medical conditions, these specially trained dogs provide more than companionship – they are trusted partners in daily life.

In addition to their support for people with disabilities, service dogs are increasingly being used as a mental health and wellness resource for frontline workers. The Delaware State Fire Commission utilizes a facility dog to provide comfort and emotional support to fire and EMS personnel facing the mental and emotional toll of emergency response work.

These dogs are not just helping individuals regain independence – they're also helping our first responders stay grounded and supported after incredibly difficult calls," said Diane Glenn, Mental Health Coordinator for the Delaware Fire Commission.

Observed each September, National Service Dog Awareness Month aims to educate the public about the distinction between service animals, emotional support animals, and facility dogs, while promoting understanding of the legal protections provided under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The month also encourages support for training organizations and inclusive practices that allow service dogs and their handlers to thrive in public and professional spaces.

All Delawareans are encouraged to take time this month to learn more about the role of service dogs, support training organizations, and promote inclusive spaces where service dogs and their handlers – including first responders – can thrive.

For more information about service dogs and accessibility resources, please visit some of the following websites:

Delaware State Fire Commission - [Facility Dog, Ajax](#)

Canine Companions - [Canine Companions Link](#)

Service Animals - [ADA.gov Service Animals](#)

Veterans Initiative - [Canine Companions](#)



# Health & Safety Corner

Our Health & Safety Team continues to:

- Conduct safety inspections
- Review injury reports
- Support wellness initiatives for firefighters, EMTs, and staff

This Fall, we encourage everyone to review safety procedures as cooler weather brings increased fire risks.

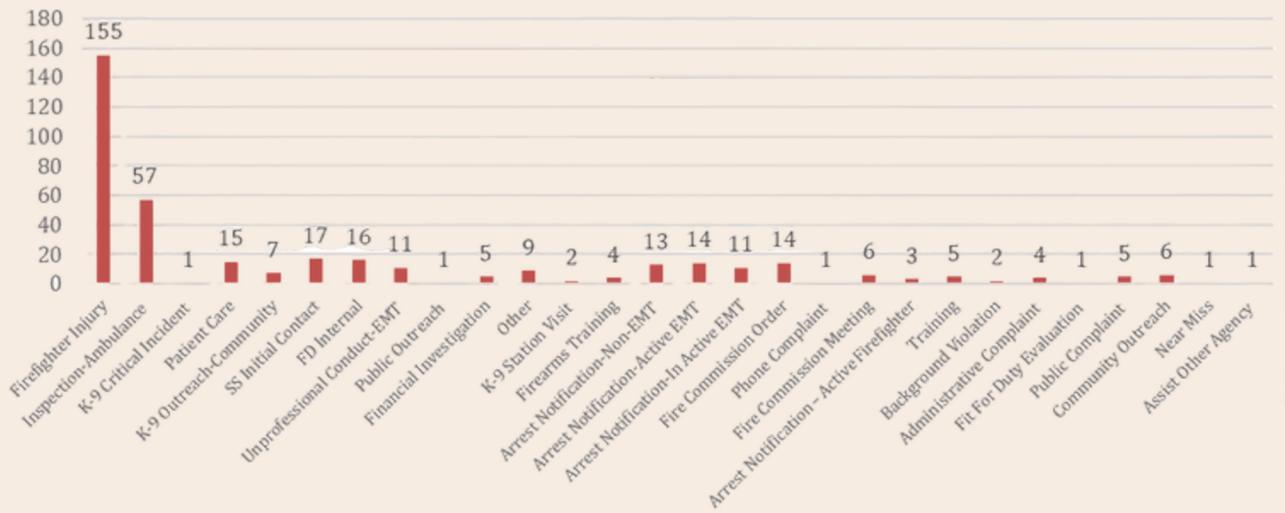
## Seasonal Safety Tip

As temperatures drop, remember:

- Inspect and clean chimneys before use
- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from flammable materials
- Replace smoke alarm batteries as daylight savings time ends



### Investigations



## UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

### Regulation 709 Review

Thursday, October 16, 2025 6:30pm - 8:00pm

### Regular Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 9:00am - 11:00am

### Regular Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 9:00am - 11:00am

### Basic Life Support QA/QI Meeting

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 9:00am - 10:00am

# *Delaware Firefighters Get New Wellness App Support*

The Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission is proud to announce a new statewide partnership with The GUIDE App, an award-winning mobile wellness tool designed specifically for first responders and frontline workers. Delaware became one of the first states in the nation to provide comprehensive access to this clinically proven and award winning platform for fire service personnel across its departments.

Through this collaboration, Delaware fire professionals will receive secure, anonymous access to The GUIDE App, a tactical wellness solution that empowers members to manage stress, improve mental health, and foster connection. Built by experts in resilience and human performance, the app offers 100s of on-demand courses, anonymous peer-to-peer support, and daily wellness practices, all in the palm of their hand.

“The Delaware Fire Commission is excited to be partnering with The GUIDE to bring mobile app wellness tools to ALL of our first responders in Fire and EMS in the State of Delaware, all while being done in a confidential and private format. The GUIDE team is knowledgeable, professional, and has always been responsive to our questions and accommodating our needs. We appreciate the resilience solution GUIDE provides to our men and women in service and look forward to the continued success of the program.”

“We’re honored to support Delaware’s fire personnel with this critical initiative,” said Patrick Sandone, Founder of The GUIDE App. “Firefighters face extraordinary pressures, and our goal is to ensure they never have to face those challenges alone. The GUIDE App is a private space where first responders can reset, reflect, and take control of their well-being, with as little as 15 minutes a day.”

This statewide rollout reflects the Delaware Fire Commission’s forward-thinking approach to workforce wellness. By leveraging technology that prioritizes privacy, accessibility, and evidence-based practices, Delaware is setting a new standard for supporting the individuals who protect its communities every day.

## About the Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission

The Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission is committed to promoting the safety and well-being of Delaware’s citizens through fire prevention, emergency medical services, and regulatory oversight. The Commission provides leadership, policy direction, and support to fire companies and EMS providers across the state.

## Downloading The GUIDE App

Please follow the steps in downloading the app. Getting started takes just two simple steps:

1. Click the “Download the App” button.
2. Enter the Invitation Code from the list provided.

If you need assistance, please reach out to the staff at the Commission and they will be happy to help.

## About The GUIDE App

Established in 2018, The GUIDE App is a leading provider of secure, mobile wellness and resilience tools for first responders and frontline professionals. Through trusted experts, science-backed content, and anonymous support features, GUIDE empowers everyday heroes to strengthen mental fitness, foster peer connection, and build lifelong resilience.

If you have any questions about onboarding into the app, please reach out to Andy Roke, Director of Customer Success.