**Why should your organization be a part of the IFIA?** Our organization provides valuable information, products and resources to be better educated, tools for conducting effective enforcement, networking to access subject matter experts and timely information on issues that affect the operations of fire prevention bureaus locally, state, and nation-wide.

The following are a sample of the benefits of being a member of the IFIA.

**Education.** Not just certifications, but training and topics provided by individuals who operate fire prevention bureaus or are industry subject matter experts. Our annual conference and three OSFM certification classes are examples of these opportunities. We also offer weekly and monthly emails on information that might be important to those in the fire prevention field.

**Legislative Involvement.** The IFIA represents its membership on issues impacting fire and life safety at the State and local levels. Several legislative items have been introduced in Springfield including self extinguishing cigarettes, Illinois’ NFPA 101 update, and new requirements pertaining to dog kennels. Our involvement assisted in all of these items being successful. IFIA is a participating member in the Illinois Fire Advisory Committee and the Illinois Fire Services Association. This provides us a voice on the issues affecting the Fire Service in Illinois, as well as access to the Illinois Fire Caucus which is a bi-partisan caucus in Springfield that brings legislative items to the General Assembly on behalf of the Fire Services Association.

**National Association Involvement.** Organizations such as the Automatic Fire Alarm Association, the International Code Council, the National Fire Protection Association, and the National Fire Sprinkler Association, are a sample of organizations that the IFIA participates in to ensure that our mission to provide effective fire prevention services is maintained. Through these relationships the IFIA is able to access to subject matter experts that can assist our membership.

**Resources.** If you have a code question that you cannot find an answer to, we have an “Ask the Expert” section. If you submit your question, several members will review it and offer a non-official opinion for the answer. Also we have access to the Jenson Hughes Academy. At reduced costs, you can watch any number of webinars to improve your skills. This can be done 24 hours a day.

Your membership will give your organization access to all these services, but more importantly your membership allows the IFIA to continue to move forward to provide and support effective life safety services. We have a network of fire prevention experts whose mission is to provide effective community risk reduction practices, and who would be willing to assist you.

In closing, we exist for you, the local jurisdiction. The services we offer are designed to improve your fire prevention and fire education services. No other Illinois State organization is dedicated to providing these types of services.

Please complete the form & return it to our office by December 31, 2019. The information you supply will be included in the 2020 Directory.

Sincerely

**James Brown**

President Elect