



2026 AAFC WINTER WORKSHOP INFORMATION

The Arkansas Association of Fire Chiefs will once again be hosting a workshop on beautiful Pettit Jean Mountain this February. We will meet for food, information and networking at the

**WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE
1 ROCKEFELLER DRIVE,
MORRILTON, AR 72110**

WORKSHOP INFORMATION:

Presentations will include
"Strategic Leadership & Building an Amazing Organization", "Never Walk Past a Problem" ISO, NERIS, and legislative updates.

There will also be a Roundtable Discussion on issues you and your department may be currently facing.

Full workshop registration (\$325) includes: Thursday night accommodation, dinner and networking and Friday workshop, breakfast, lunch and snacks.

*****If you send 2 attendees for the full workshop, save \$100.00 with the optional double occupancy rate of (\$550.00) for 2 attendees from same department. Please send a registration form for each attendee.**

**** Friday only attendance (\$150).** This will include the workshop, lunch and snacks on Friday.



INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKERS:

Fire Chief Brycen Garrison, CFO

Brycen Garrison is the fire chief of the Brighton Fire Rescue District in Colorado. Garrison has over two decades of leadership experience in emergency services, having previously served as assistant chief of training and special operations for the City of Thornton Fire Rescue, and having worked as a rescue tool specialist, teaching advanced extrication techniques to firefighters across the country. Garrison holds a master's degree in emergency services management from Columbia Southern University and a bachelor's degree with an emphasis in psychology and sociology from Colorado State University. He is a Certified Fire Officer (CFO) and previously a Chief Training Officer (CTO) through the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). Garrison is also a part of multiple fire chief associations, boards of directors and community leadership groups.

Bryan Ware

Bryan Ware brings more than 30 years of experience in the fire service, having served with the Benton Fire Department and continuing to volunteer with his local fire department. Over the past four years at Verisk/ISO, Bryan has developed extensive field expertise in Public Protection Classification (PPC) and has delivered conference presentations across Arkansas on key elements of the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). He has worked closely with fire departments to address questions related to the FSRS, helping agencies interpret, understand, and effectively apply the schedule. In addition to his field work, Bryan contributes to the development of others as a member of the Verisk/ISO Mentoring Team.



Battalion Chief Dustin McDonald

Battalion Chief Dustin McDonald has nearly 30 years of experience spanning command operations, accreditation management, and strategic planning with the Springdale, Arkansas Fire Department. In his leadership capacity, Chief McDonald commands critical departmental functions including organizational compliance, CFAI accreditation management, and long-range strategic planning initiatives.

His operational and administrative guidance has been instrumental in significant departmental achievements that include securing an exceptional ISO 1 Public Protection Classification and attaining and successfully renewing premier international accreditation through both the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) and the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS). The department achieving dual accreditation status twice under his oversight.

Chief McDonald is a recognized subject matter expert in fire service data and national standards. He functions as a National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) Advisor for UL Research Institutes, where he actively contributes to the development and nationwide implementation of cutting-edge data dictionary systems. Additionally, he serves as a CPSE Peer Assessor, leveraging his expertise to evaluate other agencies for accreditation status and ensure adherence to the highest standards of organizational excellence and community safety.



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WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE
PETIT JEAN MOUNTIAN, ARKANSAS
FEBRUARY 26-27, 2026

FEBRUARY 26:	5:00-6:30 PM	CHECK IN
	6:30-7:30	DINNER
	7:30-10:00	RECEPTION & NETWORKING
FEBRUARY 27:	7:30-8:30	BREAKFAST
	8:40-8:45	OPENING REMARKS - President Justin Scantlin
	8:45-10:15	Chief Brycen Garrison - "Strategic Leadership & Building an Amazing Organization"
	10:15-10:30	BREAK
	10:30-11:00	Bryan Ware - ISO update
	11:00-12:00	Batt. Chief Dustin McDonald - NERIS Information & update
	12:00-1:00	LUNCH
	1:00-2:00	Chief Brycen Garrison - "Never Walk Past a Problem"
	2:00-2:15	Vendor Acknowledgements
	2:15-2:30	BREAK
	2:30-3:00	Legislative Update - Chief Brad Hardin
	3:00-3:45	AAFC ROUNDTABLE/ BUSINESS MEETING
	3:45-4:00	CLOSING REMARKS



ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS
WINTER WORKSHOP
February 26-27, 2026

REGISTRATION FORM

(You can register online at our website if you are paying online)

Name:	
Fire Department:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	

Please pick your registration option below. If selecting Double Occupancy please send a registration form for each person, but only one payment of \$550.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| Workshop Single Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$325 |
| Double Occupancy Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$550 |
| One Day (Friday only) Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$150 |

Total Amount

\$

Enclosed:

Make Checks Payable to:
Arkansas Association of Fire Chiefs
C/O Stewart Bryan
PO Box 313
Greenwood, AR 72936

If you would like to pay by credit card please visit the website to purchase a registration and fill out the form there.
<http://arfirechiefs.org>

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