



# *Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association Inc.*

## *Emergency Response System*

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**2016**

**Conference Report**

**Presented to the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association**

**July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Mr. President, Members of the Association, and Guests:

Thank you for allowing me to report on the activities of the Emergency Response System during the past year.

The Ohio Fire Emergency Response System continues to develop and grow beyond the expectations of most of us that were involved from the start. Our system is excellent example of how working together we can greatly improve our capabilities as emergency responders and save lives and property in the process. The world we live in has changed significantly for first responders over the years and the scope and demand for our services continues to expand. Most Fire Chiefs and Public Officials realize that no community likely has enough resources to cover every emergency that could impact them. The Ohio Fire Chiefs Association's and it's ERS team, The Ohio Fire Service, and our partners from and across this state can be very proud of the partnership that has developed. If I were to try and list all agencies and individuals that work to make our ERS a success, this report would be exhaustingly long.

The past year has seen several activations of the system to provide resources across the state as well as support to our partners. It has been particularly rewarding to see the effectiveness of our working with several State Agencies, specifically the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, The State Fire Marshall's Office and the Department of Public Safety. The relationship and sharing of information with these agencies greatly enhances our ability to respond and serve.

Although we have an excellent Emergency Response System, we always have room for improvement and must continue to work to keep it current. I would ask that all of you who are members or partners to the ERS check to be sure that your resource and contact information is current. On the first Monday of every month we conduct a communications test of the ERS with the goal having at least one contact from all 88 counties respond to our Central Dispatch, our primary communications link is the MARCS radio system on Channel XECOMM 20. This test is the backbone of our communications system and is vitally important. PLEASE take time to participate in this communications test. A fully functioning communication link with all parts of the state will help to insure an efficient and effective response from the ERS when assistance is needed.



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Please feel free to contact your Regional Coordinator or myself if you are in need of assistance with ERS or have any questions.

Thank you once again to all of the supporters and partners of the Ohio Fire Chief's Emergency Response System, Please Stay Safe.

Mr. President this concludes my report.

Respectfully Submitted By,

OFCA/ ERS State Coordinator

Chief Russell C. Rife, EFO



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