

**ABRIDGED REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
WALL TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY
NOVEMBER 23, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Ordway at 9am in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. He stated that notice of this meeting was posted on the New Jersey State Firemen's Association website as required, pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975). The fire exits were pointed out.

Vice President Hankins led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed for our past members President Ordway asked everyone to remember Charlie Wright, past Chairman of the Credential Committee who recently passed away. Second Assistant Secretary Dreby then gave the invocation.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Counsel Cavallo swore in the Officers and Executive Committee for their current term.

ROLL CALL:

First Assistant Secretary Martone reported that all members were present except for Executive Committeeman Mecsey who was excused. President Ordway then introduced William Smith, the new Executive Committeeman from Middlesex County.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Abridged Minutes and Verbatim Minutes of the September 12, 2024, Executive Committee meeting were approved as distributed on a motion by Executive Committeeman Roemmich, seconded by Executive Committeeman Scheuer. **Motion Carried 20-0.**

COMMUNICATIONS:

Per Secretary Pelaia, there were no additional communications.

LIFE MEMBERS:

Secretary Pelaia reported that 270 members achieved Life Membership this year. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Scheuer, seconded by Executive Committeeman Otterbein, to grant Life Membership to all members who attained it at this year's convention. **Motion Carried 20-0.** A list of those members is in the packet and attached to these minutes.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

Vice President Hankins: He asked all executives who have not submitted the date and place of their 2025 caucus to submit them to him ASAP. President Ordway reminded the executives that locations and workshops must be held in a facility that is ADA compliant.

Secretary Pelaia: He had no written report but reported the following:

1) There will be two resolutions to be voted on under New Business regarding the 2025 Convention. Both are the standard resolutions approved each year to have the associations elect delegates and an exempt delegate to the convention.

2) Certificates and pins for the 270 Life Members approved this morning will be sent to the association secretaries next week.

3) The Active Membership Reports and the Financial Standing Reports must be completed and finalized online, printed out, signed and either mailed, emailed, or faxed to us by the due date. Instructions for these reports are on our website under the Forms Tab.

4) Officer Listings (due February 1) and Report of Delegates and Alternates elected (due May 1) will also be done online, as they were last year.

5) Anyone needing help with reports or other matters should feel free to contact us here in the office.

Second Assistant Secretary Dreby: The 2024 Memorial Service video has been reviewed and accepted. The video company will be putting it online shortly on the website's home page under the Annual Memorial Services tab.

First Assistant Secretary Martone: He stated that he his report is in everyone's packet. He also said that Vice President Hankins submitted an article to Fire News, Newspaper. It was on page six. He said that he sent an e-mail to everyone informing all of the article.

Treasurer Mullen:

- 1) The Audit is being finalized. President Ordway has given them notice that he would expect it to be complete by Thanksgiving.
- 2) He also reported that the Direct Deposit for payroll has begun and there have been no complaints.
- 3) He also mentioned that there are 3 Caucus Expense Reports that have not been submitted. He requested that those Committeemen forward to him as soon as possible. .

Field Examiner Hollingsworth: She reported that she is only missing (one) date for a Field Examination this year. She is waiting for that county to notify her of the date. There is a list of the Field Exam dates, and which Executives have notified her that they will be participating. She stated that she still needs more Executives to participate.

In the packets she has a list of Associations that are under review. She asked the Executives who have an Association under review, to Continue review them so that we can make sure that they are moving in the right Direction.

Counsel Cavallo: No report.

Assistant Counsel Morris: No report.

President Ordway:

1) The State Office will be closed November 28 & 29 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. The State Office will be closed starting Tuesday, December 24 for the winter break and will reopen Thursday, January 2. We will also be closed on Monday January 20 and Monday, February 17. For various Holidays

2) Applications for Special Relief & Supplemental Relief need to be received in the NJSFA State Office by Friday, December 2 for them to be processed for this calendar year. He reminded everyone that Local Relief granted for 2024 must be paid by December 31.

3).Reports due:

a) Fourth Quarter Relief Paid Report is available online and must be submitted/finalized by January 30. Once the 4th Quarter Relief Report is finalized, you will be able to import relief for the year 2024 to your Financial Standing Report.

b) Officer Listings must be completed and finalized online and submitted no later than February 1, 2025. The Officer Listing report will be open on the website starting Monday, December 2, 2024. **REMEMBER:** If you have a new Secretary and/or Treasurer, Once the Officer Listing is processed the old officers will no longer have computer access to the system. The new Officers automatically switch over as far as password Accessibility.

c) The Financial Standing Report must be done online, printed out, needed signatures affixed, along with support documents and submitted to the State Office by February 20, 2025. It can be mailed, faxed, or emailed to LocalReports@njsfa.com. Remember, if mailed, get a tracking number. If they are mailed you do not have to send a hard copy. Your report must be balanced and finalized which then deletes the word Draft. Also, this year there are two new things with the report. This year, you will see that last year's banks are already transferred over with the names of the banks and the last 4 digits of the Account number, not the balance and not the interest. The reason for this transfer is 1) so the Treasurer does not have to enter the bank's name. 2) to remind them to look at all the banks from last year. 3) if they closed the account it may alert the treasurer that there may be interest paid on that account.

d) The Convention Delegates selection report must be done online. It is submitted to us when you finalize it. Once again this year, the Relief and Exempt Delegates and Alternates will be on one entry screen. If our records show that you have an Exempt Association, it will appear on the entry screen. If you do not have an Exempt Association, the Exempt Delegate will not show on the screen. You cannot put one individual in multiple spots. The entry screen will open on the website on December 2, 2024, and the report will be due by May 1, 2025. **REMEMBER, THE CHIEF THAT YOU SUBMIT TO US ON THE OFFICER LISTING IS THE CHIEF DELEGATE FOR THE CONVENTION**

e) The Active Membership Report will open online on December 23. This will be so that we can get new applicants into the system, before formatting the report. Once the report is formatted by our office, we cannot add anyone to the report or move anyone to a different association. After finalizing the reports it must be printed out and signatures affixed and sent in no later than February 28. It can be mailed, faxed or emailed to LocalReports@njsfa.com. Remember, if mailed, get a tracking number. **REMINDER:** After we receive the Active Membership Reports, we will be running a report on who is not qualified and has had zero(0) percent qualifying time for the last five consecutive years. Local association officers will be notified that those individuals will be removed from the roster and will no longer be eligible for benefits. They will have a chance to explain why someone should be kept on, i.e., military leave.

f) Any local officer who has an issue entering data on any reports should notify our office immediately. Sometimes errors are made in the programing. and if that is the case, other Associations will probably have the same issue. If we are notified early enough, we can have the problem fixed.

g) The 2025 Convention will again be a two-day convention and will be held on September 12-13,2025

h) President Ordway stated that at the Convention somebody mentioned that we have not done anything with raising the burial Benefit in some time. President Ordway went to two Funeral Homes and asked if he could have the bottom-line cost of last 20-25 funerals. He stated that he received the total costs and 30 out of the 45 were below \$12,000.00 and the other 15 were below \$12,000.00. The average was \$9400.00

i) Although early, President Ordway did a report which he has done for the past 17 years. He said he changed it around this year and added Burial Benefit. He stated that in 2023, Total Relief was 6 million nine thousand dollars, the Burial Benefit was 10 million 400 thousand dollars and Health Care was thirteen million seven hundred thousand dollars. In 2023 the State Association paid over 30 million dollars. Come February when the gets the financial reports, He will finish the report for 2024

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADVISORY/SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTAL COMMITTEE:

Executive Committeeman Walker reported that his report is in the packets. He also reported that we will be voting on 2 members to be removed from the Association for actions of Moral Turpitude. Executive Committeeman Lenarski thanked the Advisory Committee for their assistance with a claim for a member of Prospect Heights Relief Association. President Ordway stated that Burial Claims will be highlighted at our Workshops

COMPENDIUM COMMITTEE: Nothing to report Executive Committeeman Roemmich reported that he will be having a meeting after the first of the year.

DELEGATE AND LIFE MEMBER COMMITTEE: Nothing to report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Finance Committee report has been submitted and is attached to the minutes. President Ordway stated that the final report for last year will be received sometime next week. He says we are working with the Auditors to get back on schedule.

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE: The report has been submitted and included in the packets.

FIREMEN'S HOME COMMITTEE: Chairman Otterbein reported that his report is in the packets. He had a verbal report also. The Firemen's Home Budget for was approved with a 5.09 percent increase. President Ordway asked the managers to use some of the surplus for the budget, but the managers decided not to use surplus or reserve in the budget, Fire Insurance requirement for the home increased 8.76 percent. The cost was nine hundred ninety-seven thousand, five hundred dollars. The home also had an Actuary Study. The study said that Home would need 142 beds over the next 15 years, Charman Otterbein also asked how many applicants have less than 7 years that are on the current wait list currently. He has not received an answer. The Home Building Addition Committee received approval to conduct an informational gathering project to study an addition with single room occupancy since the Single Bed concept was not included in the Actuary Study. Chairman Otterbein also asked the Home Application Committee if they inform those who are on the waiting about our Health Care Program and the Committee Chairman said he believes they do. Executive Committee Kelly then stated that he is very concerned about the addition and the cost that will affect both Organizations. He feels if we are put in a

position, where if the Home requests doubling at some point down the road, he suggests that the Home leads the attack in Trenton to double the amount of the two percent of the money that we get. He also is concerned that when a member of our Executive Committee, who is responsible for providing the funds, makes a request for some information, the Home's Attorney tells him to file an OPRA request. He feels this is a little condensing. Executive Committeewoman then asked if they are still talking about adding a second home in South Jersey. President Ordway responded that they have not discussed at any meeting that he has attended.

HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE: Chairman Reeves reported that his report is in the packets. He also stated that in 2023 we spent 13.7 million dollars and in 2024 we spent roughly 15.6 million dollars to date. He stated that we currently have 393 active claims.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE: Chairman Handlin said that what was discussed at the September meeting has been completed. We sold three of our Mutual Funds and invested those funds in Bonds and laddered our structure. The Bonds have a due date from 11/15/2026 through 11/15/32. The Interest and Dividends from these bonds will be placed in a Money Market.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Chairman Martone said that his report is in the packet. He also reported that he attended the State League of Municipalities Convention. He attended several fire related sessions along with a bunch of Legislative Updates. He thanked everyone for allowing him to go. It was a great opportunity to be there.

LONG RANGE PLANNING AND PROGRAMS REVIEW COMMITTEE: Chairman Lane stated that his report is in the packets. There will be another meeting in December. He stated that one of the items to be discussed is that we will be breaking down all the different programs that we have, one at a time so that we can outline them and then do a study with those different programs including Burial Benefit. President Ordway then mentioned that the Burial Benefit was once again brought up at the Convention, so he performed an analysis by asking 2 funeral homes if they would give him the cost of the last 20 funerals. He stated that was all he wanted. He did not ask what services were given. He told the Executives that if they were to get the same information that he asked for he would add it to his analysis.

PENSION COMMITTEE: Treasurer Mullen stated that the annual budgeted amount to go into the Pension Fund will be done by December. He stated that the amount will be ½ million dollars.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE: No report.

SALARY COMMITTEE: No report.

FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION: Chairman Naylis stated that the Commission met this past week. He will submit the State Marshall report to the office to be distributed to all Executives. He also said that the Commission discussed a number of significant highlights: a) the Commission voted and past a Resolution to oppose Assembly Bill 4972 which was to change the State Construction Code to allow single exits in buildings up to 6 stories, b) They passed a Resolution to the bill to support the Volunteer Cancer screening Bill which is currently in front of the State Legislature) (c) They passed a Resolution supporting Bill HR 1797 which is a Federal Bill to direct the Consumer Products Safety Commission to set safety standards on lithium ion batteries.

APPLICATIONS: We are awaiting information on a New Association. Frelinghuysen. Executive Committeeman Mecsey is working on it.

OLD BUSINESS: 1) President Ordway stated that He and Executive Committeeman Smith met with Helmetta. They were supposed to get back to Executive Committeeman Smith with some information. They have not given him the information so far. President Ordway hopes to give them back their books in February.

OLD BUSINESS (2) The Field Examiner stated that in the folders is a list of Associations that need to be under Review. Executive's need to go to these Associations and inform them of what is needed on their Relief Applications. If the Association doesn't comply with what is said, their books will be removed from the Association.

3) Executive Committeeman Handlin then mentioned that he had the first Trustee Workshop, and it went very well. It was well attended and the message and point got through to the members. President Ordway then mentioned that a second Trustee workshop is scheduled on December 5 in Bergen County. .

4) President Ordway asked if there was any Association That needs to come off Review. Executive Committeeman Lane asked that Passaic FRA274 be removed from Review. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Lane, Seconded by Executive Committeeman Kelly **PASSED 20-0**

(5) Executive Committeeman Handlin spoke about a letter he received a from Gloucester County Fire Chief's Association that asked how the Executives could vote against the resolution when it was passed at the 2023 Convention (this was regarding Siblings). He stated that this came back this year as a Resolution again regarding the Siblings and the Resolution Committee recommended a no vote. He was disappointed that there was no explanation regarding the No Vote given to the Convention Attendees. Much discussion ensued on this issue. The main topic was that the Burial Benefit is not an Insurance Policy but a benefit. In this situation the Funeral Bill was paid to the Funeral Home. It was also questioned that did the family file for the P.S.O.B benefit from the Federal Government.

6) Executive Committeewoman Badger brought up that one of her Associations had a meeting and members brought their spouses, significant others, and children. The members asked if this was allowable, and the answer is yes. Counsel Morris was asked if this is a public meeting, and he responded yes, and the public can attend it since it is a Public Meeting. President added that when Relief is discussed you should go into Executive Session or ask the visitors to leave the room.

7) Executive Committeewoman brought up the issue with Field Examiner Hollingsworth not receiving a stipend when she attends meetings. There was discussion on this topic and President Ordway stated that if she is attending a local meeting and it involves her duties she would be compensated.

8) There was discussion regarding Asbury Park and their failure to correct the issues that brought them into review. A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Walker to put Asbury Park FRA010, Out of Accord. **On a Roll Call Vote PASSED 19-1**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Naylis, seconded by Executive Committeeman Speigel, to have the Secretary cast one ballot for the election of Executive Committeeman John Lane as Chairman of the Executive Committee and Executive Committeeman Robert Kelly as Secretary **ON A ROLL CALL VOTE, Passed 17-0.**

2) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Speigel, seconded by Executive Committeeman Otterbein, to accept Resolutions 1 and 2, which call for associations to elect delegates and alternates to the 2024 convention and Exempt Associations to elect a delegate and alternate, to the 2025 convention. **Passed 17-0.**

3) Motion was made by Executive Committeeman Reeves, seconded by Executive Committeeman Walker to remove two qualified members from their associations for Moral Turpitude **Passed 20-0.**

4) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Fazekas seconded by Executive Committeeman to approve the 270 Life Members from the 2024 Convention **Passed 20-0**

5) A motion was made by Executive Committeeman Speigel seconded by Executive Committeeman Walker to approve the renewal of the 5-year lease on the Postage Machine. **On a Roll Call Vote 20-0**

6) Executive Committeeman Lane thanked the Executives for their support of him for Chairman of the Executive Committee

7) Executive Committeeman Naylis reported that the Fire Safety Commission will meet here in our office in January.

8) Executive Committeeman Naylis stated that he will be referring to the Compendium Committee for review, to have Volunteers receive credit for members who serve shifts or duty nights.

9) Executive Committeeman Handlin brought up an e-mail he received from Lewis Eggert requesting the removal of the Ocean County Manager and our officers regarding trustees. President Ordway stated that this is an ongoing issue with Tuckerton.

10) Executive Committeeman Speigel mentioned that former Committeeman Mellert has done research on all our past Executive Committee members. He asked if the list of past members of the Executive Committee can be placed on our website. President Ordway responded that it can and will be done. Committeeman Speigel then asked if we have an employee who assists in processing the Health Care applications. President Ordway said yes, and she also handles the Relief applications that the office receives.

11) Executive Committeeman Handlin suggested that we have the Compendium Committee review the salaries paid through the administrative expenses for local officers. He suggested that they consider a possible laddering of the salaries based on the local's administrative expenses. Compendium Chairman Roemmich responded that it will be addressed by the Compendium Committee at their next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Ordway opened the meeting to public comment and asked First Assistant Secretary Martone to read the following: The New Jersey State Firemen's Association welcomes comments from the members of the audience. He further stated that the secretary will note all comments and because of this, he asked anyone speaking to state their name and address before speaking and to keep their comments to a three-minute time limit. Concerns stated or actions requested by the public will be taken under advisement by the Executive Committee for investigation, discussion, and possible action or disposition at a later date.

- 1) Daniel Smith , Chatham Borough spoke about raising the Burial Benefit and requested that the Executive Committee consider increasing the Burial Benefit by 2% each year. .
- 2) Glenn Corbert. Waldwick, He also spoke on Burial Benefit. He supports the speaker regarding the increase in the Burial Benefit He said that he submitted the Resolution this passed year and will resubmit again next year

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary

NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South, Wall Township, NJ 07727

DATE OF MEETING: November 23, 2024

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PRES ABS

ROBERT F. ORDWAY	PRESIDENT			#4) Approve 5 year Lease for the new Postage Machine to include a Folding Machine at \$800 Monthly.					
JOSEPH T. HANKINS	VICE PRESIDENT								
THOMAS J. PELAI	SECRETARY								
BRIAN E. MARTONE	1ST ASS'T SECY								
RICHARD K. DREBY	2ND ASS'T SECY								
EDWARD R. MULLEN	TREASURER								
JENNIE HOLLINGSWORTH	FIELD EXAMINER								
FRANK P. CAVALLO, JR.	COUNSEL								
GEORGE M. MORRIS	ASS'T COUNSEL								
				YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
CINDY L. BADGER	ATLANTIC			X					
GERARD J. NAYLIS	BERGEN			X					
STEPHEN C. FAZEKAS	BURLINGTON			X					
NORMAN F. FIGUEROA, JR.	CAMDEN			X					
DANIEL F. SPEIGEL	CAPE MAY			X					
JAMES F. REEVES	CUMBERLAND			X					
RICHARD C. OTTERBEIN	ESSEX			X					
GLENN D. ROEMMICH	GLOUCESTER			X					
LAWERENCE J. HANDLIN	HUDSON			X					
JOHN R. PHILLIPS	HUNTERDON			X					
JOSEPH M. LENARSKI	MERCER			X					
WILLIAM J. SMITH	MIDDLESEX			X					
ROBERT J. KELLY	MONMOUTH			X					
EUGENE T. MINELL	MORRIS			X					
JOSEPH JUBERT	OCEAN			X					
JOHN V. LANE	PASSAIC			X					
FRANCIS X. WALKER, JR.	SALEM			X					
ALLEN F. KURDYLA	SOMERSET			X					
DANIEL L. SCHEUER	SUSSEX			X					
NICHOLAS J. FLORIO	UNION			X					
JOSPEH MECSEY 3RD	WARREN			Excused					
TOTALS				20	0				

GUESTS:

2024 Relief/Convention/Administrative Expense Analysis

11/23/2024

Year	Relief	Spec. Relief	Total Relief	Delegates	Life Members	Total Conv.	Admin Exp	Total D/LM/AE
2007	4,323,857.11	103,750.00	4,427,607.11	1,322,911.40	1,006,781.27	2,329,692.67	1,991,002.21	4,320,694.88
2008	4,873,437.16	119,250.00	4,992,687.16	1,380,533.88	1,066,478.72	2,447,012.60	1,992,784.21	4,439,796.81
2009	4,935,052.48	128,000.00	5,063,052.48	1,331,725.55	1,136,190.05	2,467,915.60	2,046,409.50	4,514,325.10
2010	4,991,624.04	122,250.00	5,113,874.04	1,338,679.80	1,142,634.67	2,481,314.47	2,043,751.68	4,525,066.15
2011	5,325,118.30	177,774.00	5,502,892.30	1,379,191.90	1,203,133.46	2,582,325.36	2,049,648.22	4,631,973.58
2012	5,752,783.12	182,482.19	5,935,265.31	1,405,081.47	1,232,320.88	2,637,402.35	2,135,823.95	4,773,226.30
2013	4,784,821.54	140,500.00	4,925,321.54	1,399,641.14	1,233,225.21	2,632,866.35	2,251,932.69	4,884,799.04
2014	4,763,378.36	147,007.34	4,910,385.70	1,437,793.65	1,299,309.75	2,737,103.40	2,325,397.73	5,062,501.13
2015	4,509,537.90	143,550.00	4,653,087.90	1,447,483.61	1,269,906.75	2,717,390.36	2,430,404.99	5,147,795.35
2016	4,985,456.06	131,000.00	5,116,456.06	1,459,845.74	1,280,876.43	2,740,722.17	2,457,561.29	5,198,283.46
2017	5,138,956.92	396,632.00	5,535,588.92	1,705,477.49	1,516,955.83	3,222,433.32	2,588,181.82	5,810,615.14
2018	4,283,313.18	357,819.13	4,641,132.31	1,698,639.15	1,490,572.64	3,189,211.79	2,608,621.03	5,797,832.82
2019	4,736,931.39	427,621.69	5,164,553.08	1,707,407.09	1,524,604.15	3,232,011.24	2,691,906.46	5,923,917.70
2020	4,736,568.64	867,283.00	5,603,851.64	231,900.00	170,989.99	402,889.99	2,760,810.60	3,163,700.59
2021	4,635,913.57	794,460.00	5,430,373.57	1,648,665.11	1,490,732.92	3,139,398.03	2,823,223.22	5,962,621.25
2022	5,127,076.83	975,801.00	6,102,877.83	1,921,129.39	1,672,863.85	3,593,993.24	2,946,521.76	6,540,515.00
2023	5,157,047.41	851,972.00	6,009,019.41	1,963,905.48	1,697,229.57	3,661,135.05	3,214,202.29	6,875,337.34
2024	-	-	-	1,937,659.70	1,705,287.50	3,642,947.20	-	3,642,947.20
chg fr 2007	-100.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%	46.47%	69.38%	56.37%	-100.00%	-15.69%
chg fr ply	-100.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%	-1.34%	0.47%	-0.50%	-100.00%	-47.01%
Total	83,060,874.01	6,067,152.35	89,128,026.36	26,717,671.55	23,140,093.64	49,857,765.19	41,358,183.65	91,215,948.84
Average	4,614,493.00	337,064.02	4,951,557.02	1,484,315.09	1,285,560.76	2,769,875.84	2,297,676.87	5,067,552.71

Year	Burial Benefit	Health Care	Total Bur/Rel/HC	# W/Net Loss	# On Subsidy	# Over \$1 Mil
2007	6,596,895.00	-	11,024,502.11	2007 Y/E Assets:	75	15
2008	7,309,891.80	-	12,302,578.96	2008 Y/E Assets:	65	20
2009	7,728,687.62	-	12,791,740.10	2009 Y/E Assets:	68	25
2010	7,632,759.88	-	12,746,633.92	2010 Y/E Assets:	59	25
2011	8,923,279.78	-	14,426,172.08	2011 Y/E Assets:	54	27
2012	7,643,024.56	-	13,578,289.87	2012 Y/E Assets:	45	27
2013	8,127,173.84	-	13,052,495.38	2013 Y/E Assets:	46	28
2014	8,827,942.75	-	13,738,328.45	2014 Y/E Assets:	44	28
2015	9,204,248.00	-	13,857,335.90	2015 Y/E Assets:	37	30
2016	8,888,436.85	-	14,004,892.91	2016 Y/E Assets:	34	35
2017	10,448,528.77	99,600.06	16,083,717.75	2017 Y/E Assets:	28	36
2018	10,012,754.55	141,376.99	14,795,263.85	2018 Y/E Assets:	28	37
2019	10,798,872.51	329,791.83	16,293,217.42	2019 Y/E Assets:	31	41
2020	12,068,462.11	1,573,001.17	19,245,314.92	2020 Y/E Assets:	39	46
2021	11,781,343.10	4,052,639.95	21,264,356.62	2021 Y/E Assets:	21	47
2022	12,239,524.02	8,296,092.42	26,638,494.27	2022 Y/E Assets:	26	48
2023	10,422,943.61	13,770,372.93	30,202,335.95	2023 Y/E Assets	33	54
2024	-	-	-	2024 Y/E Assets	42	
chg fr 2007	-100.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%	chg fr 2007	-44.00%	-100.00%
chg fr ply	-100.00%	-100.00%	-100.00%	chg fr ply	27.27%	-100.00%
Total	158,654,768.75	28,262,875.35	276,045,670.46			
Average	8,814,153.82	3,532,859.42	15,335,870.58			

Funeral Costs

	<u>MD</u>	<u>CM</u>	
	4,500.00	1,820.00	
	4,648.00	2,030.00	
	5,020.00	3,451.00	
	6,100.00	3,461.00	
	7,000.00	3,481.00	
	8,185.00	3,651.00	
	8,695.00	3,741.00	
	9,000.00	6,955.00	
	9,200.00	6,975.00	
	9,500.00	7,750.00	
	9,590.00	8,060.00	
	10,000.00	9,940.00	
	10,000.00	9,940.00	
	11,710.00	10,890.00	
	11,740.00	12,260.00	
	11,970.00	12,979.00	
	<u>12,000.00</u>	13,148.82	
	12,335.00	13,340.00	
	12,655.00	13,769.00	
	13,000.00	16,249.08	
	13,000.00		
	13,436.00		
	14,378.00		
	15,652.00		
	15,751.00		
avg	10,362.60	8,194.55	9,399.02
below 12	16	14	30
12 & above	9	6	15
total #	25	20	45

NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Comparison 2023 vs 2024

<u>JANUARY - NOV</u>	<u>1/1/2023</u> <u>thru 11/22/2023</u>		<u>1/1/2024</u> <u>thru 11/22/2024</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
* Healthcare - FF	\$9,800,580.74	279	\$13,181,927.16	307	\$3,381,346.42	34.50%	State Office
* Healthcare - Sp	\$2,612,986.87	196	\$2,903,488.38	208	\$290,501.51	11.12%	State Office
Special Relief	\$704,489.00	140	\$766,690.00	144	\$62,201.00	8.83%	State Office
Total - State	\$13,118,056.61		\$16,852,105.54		\$3,734,048.93	28.46%	

* 2024 Healthcare payments are going to members from all 21 Counties

* 743 Firefighters since inception 1/2017

* 357 spouses since inception 1/2021

<u>BURIAL CLAIMS</u>	<u>1/1/2023</u> <u>thru 11/22/2023</u>		<u>1/1/2024</u> <u>thru 11/22/2024</u>		<u>Incr. \$ Paid</u>	<u>Incr. % Paid</u>	<u>Paid out by</u>
<u>JANUARY - NOV</u>							
Burial Claims	\$9,474,902.21	810	\$9,249,033.34	787	-\$225,868.87	-2.38%	State Office

Local Relief Paid Comparison - Local, *Special & Supplemental Actual Paid Combined - Paid out by Local Associations

	<u>YTD Total</u>	<u>Incr/Decr from P/Y</u>	<u>PCT</u>		<u>2024</u>
2018	\$4,283,313.18			1st Qtr	\$991,047.03
2019	\$4,736,931.39	\$453,618.21	11%	2nd Qtr	\$1,317,709.43
2020	\$4,736,568.64	-\$362.75	0%	3rd Qtr	\$1,149,572.22
2021	\$4,635,913.57	-\$100,655.07	-2%	4th Qtr	
2022	\$5,127,076.83	\$491,163.26	11%	2024 to-date	\$3,458,328.68
2023	\$5,157,047.41	\$29,970.58	1%		

* includes local paid special



NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN – PASSAIC COUNTY

John V. Lane
30 Watchung Drive
Hawthorne NJ, 07506

Cell: (973) 981-3912
Email: passaicexecutive@njsfa.com

Date: November 8, 2024

To: Thomas Pelaia, NJSFA Secretary

From: John V. Lane, Chairman

Sub: New Committee

Please note—

The Long-Range Planning Committee and the Financial Oversight Committee were combined into one new committee called Long Range Planning and Program Review Committee.

We had our first meeting in October. The LRPPRC committee discussed the programs that we currently offer to our firefighters and spouses. There was no determination as to all of the programs that we offer at this time. We agreed to get additional information on some of the programs for discussion at our next committee meeting. I will keep everyone informed as the committee moves forward.

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Jennie M. Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

Legislative Committee Report November 23, 2024

To: Officers & All Members of the Executive Committee,

We are in the 2024-2025 Legislative Session, there has been a total of 9,550 bills introduced as of this report. The total of our tracked bills is 279, with 155 bills in Fire & Emergency Services, 54 bills in Pensions, and 73 bills in Firemen's Home. There are currently twenty bills sitting on the Governor's Desk. The Governor has signed ninety bills into law to date, we currently have three of our tracked bills signed by the Governor.

Vice President Hankins was in Trenton last month at the Assembly Labor Committee Meeting to show support and testify for A-1429, which exempts certain volunteer first responders from coverage under "unemployment compensation law"; excludes from gross income amounts received for certain volunteer emergency services. The bill was reported out of committee and referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

On Tuesday, November 12, 2024, in the US House of Representatives H.R. 82 Social Security Fairness Act of 2023 was heard and passed by a vote of 327 – 75 (bill was sent to the US Senate). This bill repeals provisions that reduce Social Security benefits for individuals who receive other benefits, such as a pension from a state or local government for Fire, Police, & Teachers. The bill eliminates the government pension offset (commonly known as the Windfall Elimination Provision), which in various instances reduces Social Security benefits for spouses, widows, and widowers who also receive government pensions of their own.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian E. Martone
Legislative Committee Chairman
First Assistant Secretary

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Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary
Jennie Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

Date: November 23, 2024

To: Executive Committee

Health Care Committee Report:

HEALTH CARE

NEW CLAIMS Y/T/D 163

OF THAT

FIREFIGHTER Y/T/D 117

SPOUSE Y/T/D 48 (new applicants frozen 6/1/24)

PAID YTD \$15,628,279.12

ACTIVE CLAIMS TOTAL – 393

HEALTH CARE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>TOTAL PAYOUT</u>
2017	46	\$ 99,600.06
2018	28	\$ 141,376.99
2019	53	\$ 329,791.83
2020	94	\$ 1,573,001.17
2021	165	\$ 4,052,639.95
2022	271	\$ 8,296,092.42
2023	276	\$13,770,372.93

Sincerely,

James Reeves

James Reeves
Health Care Committee

Visit us on the web at www.njsfa.com

**BOARD OF MANAGERS
FIREMEN'S HOME
2024 - 2025**

Atlantic	OSCAR DUTCH 973-255-0135 ◇ odutch@nifh.org
BERGEN	PETER JEFFER 201-447-5657 ◇ pjeffer@nifh.org
BURLINGTON	ALBERT FREEMAN 609-304-9938 ◇ afreeman@nifh.org
CAMDEN	MICHAEL JOAS 609-685-2631 ◇ mjoas@nifh.org
CAPE MAY	DANIEL DUNN 609-780-7364 ◇ ddunn@wildwoodnj.org
CUMBERLAND	JOHN P. MITCH 856-200-9870 ◇ jmitch@nifh.org
ESSEX	BERNARD J. CUNNINGHAM 973-715-6900 ◇ bcunningham@nifh.org
GLOUCESTER	HARRY STRUBE Jr 609-315-9595 ◇ hstrube@nifh.org
HUDSON	GEORGE H. HEFLICH 201-983-3517 ◇ jheflich@nifh.org
HUNTERDON	TIMOTHY J. APGAR 908-444-4624 ◇ tapgar@nifh.org
MERCER	GILBERT LUGOSSY 609-392-3403 ◇ glugossy@nifh.org
MIDDLESEX	GARRICK D. MILLER 732-619-8268 ◇ gmiller@nifh.org
MONMOUTH	NICHOLAS GIGLIO JR 732-693-5662 ◇ ngiglio@nifh.org
MORRIS	GARY KEYSER 973-476-5477 ◇ gkeyser@nifh.org
OCEAN	ROGER C. HULL 732-300-9763 ◇ rhull@nifh.org
PASSAIC	AMY DEVIRGILIO 973-296-6248 ◇ adevigilio@nifh.org
SALEM	
SOMERSET	THOMAS SUTPHEN 908-872-7566 ◇ tsutphen@nifh.org
SUSSEX	THOMAS WASHER 862-268-5399 ◇ twasher@nifh.org
UNION	JOSEPH SIGNORELLO JR 908-721-6488 ◇ jsignorello@nifh.org
WARREN	GLENN WILSON 908-475-5713 ◇ gwilson@nifh.org

November 23, 2024

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Jennie Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

SECRETARY'S REPORT

November 23, 2024

In addition to the normal duties performed by the Secretary I report the following:

- 1) Along with our office staff, processed the Convention Attendance Reports, and notified all local secretaries of the same.
- 2) Along with our office staff we processed the new Life Member list for 2024 and prepared the new Life Member certificates for mailing.
- 3) As per State Statute, I notified the New Jersey State Office of Banking and Insurance of the election results from the Convention.
- 4) Began the process of preparing for year end and initializing reports for 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Pelaia

Thomas J. Pelaia
Secretary

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First Assistant Secretary Report Executive Committee Meeting November 23, 2024

To: Officers & All Members of the Executive Committee,

I would like to just give an update on some of the things that I have been working on since the September Meeting. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee Manuals were updated with some minor changes and reposted to our website. The three History files were posted on the website as well, all under the Manuals Tab.

The Convention Committee Workers were all paid by the State Office. I have been collecting their Convention Vouchers and Expenses or W-4 Forms.

President Ordway, Vice President Hankins, and I met with the COO/Executive Editor of Fire News (one of the Fire Newspapers). He has offered us a space to write a few articles to help keep members informed. Vice President Hankins wrote an article for this month's paper which is distributed for all of New Jersey.

I have been continuing to assist Field Examiner Hollingsworth in reviewing all the relief applications that were collected in each county.

On Wednesday, November 13, 2024, we conducted a Trustee Workshop in Hudson County hosted by Executive Committeeman Larry Handlin. This was the first time we have done the workshop only focusing on the Trustees and Relief, which went well. We have another Trustee Workshops scheduled in Bergen County on Monday, December 2, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian E. Martone
First Assistant Secretary

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Jennie Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

November 23, 2024
FIELD EXAMINERS REPORT

The following applications for Supplementary Relief, Special Relief, and Health Care were processed thus far in 2024.

Applications	Received	Approved	Denied	Active Claims	Amount Paid YTD
Special Relief	194	176	18		\$ 757,246.00
Supplementary Relief	122	97	25		\$ 1,206,957.00
Health Care Program	163	163		393	\$ 15,628,279.12

Notes:

- As of today, with the help of First Assistant Secretary Brian Martone we have been able to complete 90% of the 2023 local relief application reviews and have returned them to the Executives.
- Attached is the list of Associations under review.
- Attached is the 2025 Field Exam schedule.
- Since September I have ran and processed many reports for the Special Committee and attended the meetings.
- On November 13, 2024, I attended the first Trustees Workshop in Hudson County hosted by Executive Committeeman Larry Handlin.

The following is what was processed for the month of September.

- I reviewed and processed 308 claims for health care reimbursement.
- I processed 13 new claims for health care and many renewal claims.
- I reviewed and processed 21 claims for special and supplemental review.

The following is what was processed for the month of October.

- I reviewed and processed 329 claims for health care reimbursement.
- I processed 4 new claims for health care and many renewal claims.
- I reviewed and processed 29 claims for special and supplemental review.

The following is what was processed for the month of November.

- I reviewed and processed 273 claims for health care reimbursement.
- I processed 2 new claims for health care and many renewal claims.
- I reviewed and processed 35 claims for special and supplemental review.

Sincerely,
Jennie Hollingsworth
Field Examiner

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Treasurer's Report

November 23, 2024

1. All three quarterly reviews, by PKF O'Connor Davies, of our General and Special Relief Funds are complete.
2. The annual audit for the year ended December 31, 2023, of our Pension Fund is complete, we are awaiting the final report from PKF O'Connor Davies.
3. The auditor's field work for our annual audit for the year ended June 30, 2024, was completed this past Tuesday. We hope to have the final Audit Report by next week. We will distribute a copy to the Executives once we receive them.
4. Starting with the Executives' October payroll, **Direct Deposit** was instituted. Whether you elected to participate in Direct Deposit or not, please complete and return the forms that I distributed to you during our September meeting.
5. There are a number of Executives who have yet to complete and submit their County Caucus Expense Accounting forms. Please get them to me.

Other Notes:

Finance Committee:

The report of the Finance Committee from Chairperson Robert C. Kepler, Jr. is in your packet

Pension Committee:

We met this morning. I will make a brief oral report.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward R. Mullen, CPA
Treasurer

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Jennie M. Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

November 4, 2024

Robert F. Ordway, President
New Jersey State Firemen's Association
1711 Route 34 South
Wall Township, NJ 07727-3934

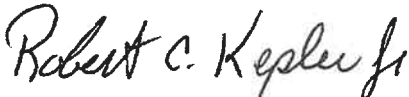
Dear Mr. President:

A regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on November 4, 2024, at the office of the Association. At that time, the accounts of the Association were audited for the First Quarter ending September 30, 2024. Treasurer Edward R. Mullen was available as needed and cooperated fully with the Committee in providing satisfactory answers to any questions that arose during the audit.

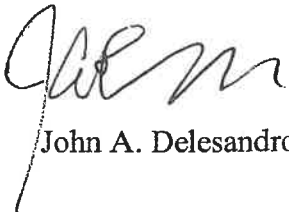
The reviews covered the reconciliation of all checks, vouchers, ledger entries and bank statements for the General fund, Burial Fund, Pension, General Checking, Assessment and Special Relief accounts. The Association income documents, bank statements, and credit and debit documents were found to be accurate and in satisfactory condition.

The Committee considers the accounts of the Association to be in satisfactory condition and has no recommendations to make at this time.

Very truly yours,



Robert C. Kepler, Jr., Chairperson



John A. Delesandro, III



Edward A. Pettit, Jr.

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2025 OFFICE CLOSING

January 1st	New Year's Day
January 20 th	Martin Luther King's Birthday
February 17 th	President's Day
April 18th	Good Friday
May 26 th	Memorial Day
June 19 th	Juneteenth
July 4 th	Independence Day
September 1st	Labor Day
September 11 th	Thursday during Convention
September 12 th	Friday during Convention
October 13 th	Columbus Day
November 4 th	Election Day
November 11 th	Veteran's Day
November 27 th	Thanksgiving Day
November 28 th	Day after Thanksgiving
December 25 th	Christmas

NOTE

The office will be closed on Monday, June 30th for the regular summer vacation, and will re-open on Monday, July 7th.

The office will be closed on Wednesday, December 24th for the regular winter vacation and will re-open on Monday, January 5, 2026.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - 2025

February 22 (Sat)	NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ	@9AM
May 3 (Sat)	NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ	@9AM
July 19 (Sat)	NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ	@9AM
September 11 (Thu)	Wildwood Convention Center	@9AM
November 22 (Sat)	NJSFA Office – Wall Township, NJ	@9AM

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - 2025

January	*<u>9th</u> and <u>23rd</u>*
February	6th and 20th
March	6th and 20th
April	3rd and 17th
May	1st and 15th
June	5th and 19th
July	*<u>10th</u> and <u>24th</u>*
August	7th and 21st
September	4th and 18th
October	2nd and 16th
November	6th and 20th
December	4th and 18th

*** Not the 1st or 3rd Thursday of the Month ***

PENSION COMMITTEE MEETING DATES - 2025

MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE SAME DAY AS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

February	22nd	8:30 am
May	3rd	8:30 am
July	19 th	8:30 am
September	11 th	8:30 am
November	22nd	8:30 am

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES – 2025

MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON DATE NOTED

February	3rd
May	5th
August	4th
November	3rd