

14th Annual

PADUCAH FIRE DEPARTMENT

COMBINED CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 15-16, 2026

JULIAN CARROLL
CONVENTION CENTER



FIRE PREVENTION/SUPPRESSION- BUILDING-ELECTRICAL -ARSON- PLUMBING/HVAC

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026 CLASSES:

PREVENTION/SUPPRESSION: Leading Beyond the Alarm: Real Conversations About Trust, People, and the Future of the Fire Service: Leadership in the fire service extends far beyond the emergency scene. It is demonstrated through difficult conversations, organizational change, personnel decisions, public scrutiny, and the way we support our members during challenging times. Drawing from more than four decades of service at the local, state, and national levels, Gary West will lead an honest and interactive conversation about the challenges facing today's fire service leaders. Participants will explore building trust, making sound decisions under pressure, creating accountability without humiliation, managing conflict and change, supporting firefighter mental health, and preparing the next generation of leaders. Through practical examples, group discussions, and realistic leadership scenarios, attendees at every rank will examine how their daily decisions and actions shape their department's culture, effectiveness, and future. Participants will leave with practical leadership principles and a personal 30-day commitment they can immediately apply within their organizations. This class will be presented by Chief Gary West.

Hot Topics for Fire and Code: 4th Amendment, Open Records, and AI. This session will be presented by Kristen Krueger, Partner, KKHB Law.

The seminar will address the following topics:

- Fourth Amendment considerations for fire and EMS responses, including lawful access to homes and businesses and related property-owner rights.
- Constitutional and access-related issues arising during fire investigations and routine inspections.
- Public records and litigation considerations for fire, EMS, and inspection reports, particularly where observations depend on lawful access.
- Artificial intelligence in fire service and inspection work, including a case study of an AI-generated engineering report and what to watch for.

ELECTRICAL: NEC Articles 680 Pool Grounding & Bonding, 450 Transformers, 514 Fuel Dispensing * * (This style of class is designed for Electrical Inspectors, Architects & Engineers-formerly offered on Saturday). This class will be instructed by Jeff Fecteau of UL.

THURSDAY EVENING HOSPITALITY EVENT

FISH FRY-PROVIDED BY KKHB

OCTOBER 15, 5:30 P.M.

PARKING LOT BEHIND HOLIDAY INN RIVERFRONT

FOOD-BEVERAGES-FUN



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026 CLASSES:

ARSON: Ignition Source Competency: Did it really start the fire?: The class will provide an examination of ignition sources, including their competency characteristics, capabilities, and how they play a role in fire origin and cause determinations. We will use a combination of classroom instruction and live fire demonstrations to help attendees gain skills to evaluate different ignition theories and identify common factors when dealing with intentionally set fires. Additionally, attendees will be able to observe fire behavior and material properties during the combustion process. Instructors will be Mike Dalton, IAAI-CFI and Jim Gault, IAAI-CFI. **(This class is designed for fire investigators, firefighters, and law enforcement)*

ELECTRICAL: NEC Articles: 725 Class 1, 2, & 3 Circuits, and 2026 Code Update. This class will be instructed by Jeff Fecteau of UL.

BUILDING CODE: 2018 KBC-Emphasis on Height & Area: This class is intended to teach or reinforce the fundamentals of evaluating buildings for compliance under the Height and Area provisions of the 2015 IBC/2018 KBC along with insight as to the impact of these criteria under the 2024 IBC. The goal is to become comfortable in the efficient assessment of a building's required maximum allowable building size. Eliminate any confusion or mystery of the steps to be taken for the proper evaluation for building size and to enable inspectors, plans reviewers, and designers to explain the use of the code criteria quickly to their clients.

Smoke Control Systems: This one-hour accredited training course provides an in-depth overview of smoke control systems, focusing on the two system types outlined in NFPA 92. Attendees will explore essential compliance and design elements drawn from key standards, including IBC Chapter 909, NFPA 70 Chapter 760, and NFPA 101. The course also covers both passive and active smoke control systems, examining critical concepts such as stack effect, reverse stack effect, building leakage, shaft pressurization, tenable space calculations, and rational analysis. Participants will gain insight into the Firefighters Smoke Control Station and applicable UL standards (UL 864, UL 555/S/C, UL 762, UUKL, UJOZ, UOXX), along with commissioning and testing procedures. Who Should Attend: This course is designed for professionals with at least five years of experience in system design, installation, maintenance, or project estimating, as well as building owners seeking to enhance their understanding of smoke control systems. It is also highly relevant for system designers, sales personnel, installation and service technicians, and building and fire inspectors involved in acceptance testing and plan reviews. This session will be presented by Michael Ventola of Space Age Electronics.

SPRINKLER SYSTEMS: Rough and Final Inspections of Fire Sprinkler Systems: This one-day seminar provides attendees with vital information on how to conduct the field inspections for

new fire sprinkler systems. Fire sprinkler systems are installed in stages, and inspections are required before commencing to the next stage. The codes require periodic on-site inspections as the work progresses, to be installed according to the approved construction documents. This work must be inspected and approved before being covered or before the system is commissioned. This course points out the visual and physical inspection requirements of the latest codes and standards. Attendees must bring a copy of NFPA 13 to class. Instructor will be Jon Nisja of NFSA.

FIRE ALARM: Significant Proposed Changes to the 2028 Edition of NFPA 72 – 2nd Draft Actions, Emergency Control Functions – Requirements and Acceptance Testing

Morning Session: Fire Alarm and Signaling Systems - Emergency Control Functions

This session looks at the integrated and interconnected systems and equipment that are either supervised or controlled by fire alarm and signaling systems. Systems such as Phase I Emergency Elevator Recall and Elevator Power Shutdown, HVAC System Control, Door Release and Shutdown, control of HVLS fans, are some of the systems that will be discussed. Testing requirements for these systems, including the need to coordinate testing between contractors, will be explained.

Afternoon Session: The Future of NFPA 72 – National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code

NFPA 72 is ever evolving, and the next edition of the document will be no different. More than 500 Public Inputs were received by NFPA and assigned to the various technical committees responsible for reviewing, rejecting or approving changes to the code. Committee work is now complete, and the document is close to final completion. The session will discuss many of the proposed changes and explain why they are finding their way into the proposed document which is set for approval in 2027. Warren Olsen will be the instructor.

PLUMBING/HVAC: How to maneuver through the DHBC website-“Licensing”; How to renew on the portal; Common Code issues found during inspections; What is encapsulation per code & what’s required; Basics of Residential vs Commercial Code updates & recent changes. This session will be instructed by the Melissa Smalley-HVAC Inspector for DHBC, Mark Curry-Plumbing Field Ops Manager for DHBC, David Moore-Deputy Commissioner of DHBC, and Mark Hayden-Director of Plumbing, Boiler & HVAC for DHBC.

**INSTRUCTORS BIOS AVAILABLE ON CONFERENCE WEBSITE:
[HTTP://PADUCAHKY.GOV/ANNUAL-CONFERENCE-INFORMATION](http://PADUCAHKY.GOV/ANNUAL-CONFERENCE-INFORMATION)**



*Lodging available at a discounted rate,
Holiday Inn Riverfront
600 N 4th St, Paducah, KY 42001
Call (270) 366-7614 Group Code: PFD*

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

PADUCAH FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION



COMBINED CONFERENCE 2026 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



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BRONZE | \$300

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**A representative of your organization will be invited to a private dinner with the Mayor & other Gold & Platinum sponsor reps.*

SECURE YOUR LEVEL! | CONTACT: Paducah Fire Prevention Division

PHONE: (270) 444-8522 | **EMAIL:** apittman@paducahky.gov | **DEADLINE:** September 30, 2026



PADUCAH FIRE DEPARTMENT 14TH ANNUAL COMBINED CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 7:30 AM., CLASSES AT 8:00 AM

NAME: _____
(LAST) (FIRST)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 5:30 PM, FISH FRY HOSPITALITY EVENT

BEHIND THE HOLIDAY INN, 600 N 4TH STREET, SPONSORED BY KKHB

→ PLEASE SELECT ONE CLASS EACH DAY THAT YOU ARE ATTENDING ALL CLASSES ARE 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. ←

THURSDAY:

_____ **Prevention/Suppression:** Leading Beyond the Alarm: Real Conversations About Trust, People, and the Future of the Fire Service

_____ **Electrical:** NEC Articles 680 Pool Grounding & Bonding, 450 Transformers, 514 Fuel Dispensing ** (This style of class is designed for Electrical Inspectors, Architects & Engineers-formerly offered on Saturday)

FRIDAY:

_____ **Arson:** Ignition Source Competency: Did it really start the fire?

_____ **Electrical:** NEC Articles: 725 Class 1, 2, & 3 Circuits, and 2026 Code Update

_____ **Building:** 2018 KBC-Emphasis on Height & Area; Smoke Control Systems

_____ **Sprinkler Systems:** Rough and Final Inspection of Sprinkler Systems

_____ **Fire Alarm:** Significant Proposed Changes to the 2028 Edition of NFPA 72 – 2nd Draft Actions, Emergency Control Functions – Requirements and Acceptance Testing

_____ **Plumbing/HVAC:** How to maneuver through the DHBC website-“Licensing”; How to renew on the portal; Common Code issues found during inspections; What is encapsulation per code & what’s required; Basics of Residential vs Commercial Code updates & recent changes.

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

REPRESENTING: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

◀NO REGISTRATION FEES, LUNCH TO BE PROVIDED, CEU’S AVAILABLE▶

E-Mail Registration Form to: apittman@paducahky.gov, or Mail to:
Paducah Fire Department, Attn: April Pittman, 301 Washington St, Paducah, KY 42003

Discounted Lodging rates: Holiday Inn Paducah Riverfront, 600 N 4th St, Paducah, KY
Call (270) 366-7614 Block Code: PFD, or mention Paducah Fire Dept for reservations
Online booking available at: www.holidayinn.com/paducahky

Please call (270) 444-8522 for any additional conference information

Visit

PaducahFireConference.com

Or Scan QR

Code to Register Online

