## Recruitment And Retention In Today's Competitive World

The current staffing crisis is real for both volunteer and career departments. Since the Covid-19 Pandemic companies around the world are rethinking their work environment. Many offer the ability to work from home and flexible schedules while paying top dollar. The fire service cannot offer these opportunities but we must also rethink our methods. A major shortcoming in the fire service is the failure to recruit. We will examine your community and provide potential ideas for recruiting. What's happening locally and nationwide to address the staffing shortages? Once individuals are recruited how do we get them engaged? We must understand what todays recruits expect from us or they will leave. How do we fund the necessary fire\EMS required training? We will look at potential funding methods and ideas for retaining our most important resource – staffing.

## **Instructor – Greg Schultz**

Greg Schultz began his fire service career in 1974. He has been a Volunteer FF for 47 years serving as Chief for 10 years. Greg has also served as a career FF for 22 years during that time. He represents the Kentucky Firefighters Association as a Director to the National Volunteer Fire Council. Greg serves on the Recruitment/Retention and Volunteer Advocacy Committees for NVFC. Since 2014 he has focused on Recruitment and Retention of Fire and EMS Staff under several FEMA SAFER Grants.