



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY.

TRAINING

ADVOCACY

COMMUNITY

JOIN THE VAFR TODAY!

WWW.VAFR.ORG



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY.



VALUES: RESPOND

RESPECT

We honor every responder, agency, and community we serve.

EXCELLENCE

We pursue outstanding performance in training, leadership, and service.

SERVICE

We support our members and communities with skill, compassion, and readiness.

PROFESSIONALISM

We uphold high ethical standards and lead by example in all environments.

OPPORTUNITY

We provide pathways to learn, grow, and advance in public safety.

NETWORK

We connect responders statewide, strengthening collaboration and support.

DEDICATION

We are committed to continuous improvement and mission-focused service.

22,000+
MEMBERS

Supporting Virginia's communities from mountains to coast.

350+
AGENCIES

Connected through shared training, advocacy, and service.

10,000+
HOURS

of annual training delivered through statewide programs.

90
YEARS

of leadership, teamwork and dedication to saving lives.



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY.



JOIN THE VAFR TODAY!

Who We Are

The Virginia Association of First Responders (VAFR) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supporting first responders statewide through training, advocacy, and leadership.

Our Mission

The Virginia Association of First Responders is committed to supporting and empowering first responders across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Our Vision

Striving to be a nationally recognized leader in serving Virginia's First Responder community through exceptional training, fostering collaboration, developing leaders, and advocating for the system's needs.

Why Join VAFR

Every first responder has a 'why.' Whether continuing a family tradition or serving your community, VAFR helps fulfill that mission through connection, education, and support.



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY.



Membership Benefits	Agency Membership	Individual Membership
Quarterly Lifeline publication	✓	✓
Over 22 training courses at no cost.	✓	✓
Death Benefit Plan	✓	✓
Voting rights	✓	—
Discounts for VAFR events including Rescue College	✓	✓
Thousands of dollars in annual scholarship opportunities.	✓	✓
Executive Director and State Office committed to supporting our members	✓	✓
A dedicated lobbyist and legislative team advocating for ALL first responders	✓	✓
Access to Rescue College, Annual Convention, and Spring Meeting	✓	✓
A regional district support network	✓	✓



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY.



Training & Development

VAFR delivers hands-on, high-impact training across all public safety disciplines including Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, Telecommunications, Mental Health and Technical Rescue. Our programs range from EVOC, Water Rescue, Bus and Vehicle Extrication, and Rope Operations to Incident Command, Leadership, and Instructor Development.

Advocacy & Representation

VAFR ensures a voice in legislation, representing members on key boards and workgroups which influence EMS, Fire, Telecommunications, Mental Health and Law Enforcement policy.

Events & Community

Members connect through events such as Annual Convention, Rescue College, and District meetings. These gatherings strengthen collaboration among all disciplines.

Member Benefits

VAFR members gain more than training; they gain a family. As a member you'll have access to exclusive scholarships, a member death benefit program, and a powerful statewide network of first responders dedicated to service and support.

Our History

Founded in 1935 as the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, VAFR honors its legacy while embracing the future of first responder collaboration.

Join the VAFR Family

Apply online at www.vafr.org or contact the State Office at (804) 749-8191 or vafr@vafr.org.



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY.



VAFR COURSES

Infection Disease Control Basic
Designated Infection Control Officer
Emergency Vehicle Operator Course
EVOG Trailer Operations
Vehicle Rescue - Awareness
Vehicle Rescue Awareness and Operations
Advanced Vehicle Rescue
Farm Machinery Extrication
Farm Machinery Extrication Advanced
School Bus Extrication
Methods of Instruction
Rescue Camp for Youth
Rescue Explorers
Auxiliary Organizational and Leadership Skills
EMS Agency Leadership
Grant Writing
Parliamentary Law
Mental Health First Aid for Fire and EMS
Basic Light Duty Rescue Awareness Low Angle Operations
Vertical Rescue - High Angle Operations Level
Advanced Vertical Rescue - Technician Level
Hazardous Materials First Responder Awareness
Special Events and Off-Road Operations (SEOR-Ops)
Introduction to Swift Water Rescue
Swift Water Rescue
Traffic Incident Management



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY.



VISIT VAFR.ORG FOR DATES, INFO, AND EVENT UPDATES.

Annual Convention (Fall)

The VAFR Annual Convention brings first responders from across Virginia together for networking, specialized training, competitions, awards, and association business. It is a celebration of service, tradition, and professional growth. Members participate in educational sessions, hands-on learning, vendor exhibits, and statewide recognition programs aimed at honoring excellence and strengthening agency collaboration.

Virginia First Responder Symposium (Summer)

Virginia First Responder Symposium is VAFR's flagship multi-disciplinary training symposium. This immersive event offers hands-on courses for EMS, Fire, Law Enforcement, Technical Rescue, and related public safety fields. Students gain real-world skills through classroom instruction, dynamic scenarios, leadership development, and nationally recognized certifications. It is one of the longest-running and most comprehensive training events of its kind in the region.

Spring Board of Governors & Training Event (Spring)

The Spring BOG meeting focuses on the governance, direction, and strategic priorities of the Association. Leadership teams, committee members, and district representatives gather to review programs, policies, budgets, and legislative priorities. In addition to association business, members have opportunities to participate in training sessions that support operational readiness and professional development. This event helps shape initiatives and provides statewide updates for member agencies.



Apply online at www.VAFR.org or complete and return this application.



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

STRONGER TOGETHER. ALWAYS READY

AGENCY INFORMATION

Organization / Member Name: _____

Address: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Toll-Free: _____

Fax: _____ Website URL: _____

Total Members: _____

PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Middle: _____ Last Name: _____

Suffix: _____ Saluation: _____ Title: _____

Primary Contact Address: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____ Phone Number: _____ Ext: _____

Mobile: _____ Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ EMS Cert #: _____

VAOEMS Agency #: _____ Secondary Affiliation: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Received By: _____ Date Received: _____

Entered By: _____ Date Entered: _____

District VP Notified: _____ Date: _____

Membership Committee: _____ Date: _____