



March 17-19, 2023

S.C. State Fire  
141 Monticello Trail  
Columbia, SC 29203

*South Carolina's Premiere Fire-Rescue  
Special Operations Conference*

**Registration Details**

**Form:** Complete the attached SOCON-Special Operations Conference registration form and email to [Amy.Williamson@llr.sc.gov](mailto:Amy.Williamson@llr.sc.gov). Any required prerequisites must be listed on your SC Fire Academy transcript.

**Fee:** The conference fee is \$50. This includes Friday dinner, Saturday/Sunday breakfast and lunch. The fee is non-refundable and is billed at the time of registration.

**Dormitory:** If you would like to stay on campus, the Academy dormitory is \$50/night-single occupancy only. The room reservation request is on the registration form. Prefer to stay off-site? VISIT: [Partner Hotel Information](#)

**Weekend Learning Agenda**

**Friday, March 17, 2023**

Denny Auditorium	2 p.m.-6 p.m.	<p><b>Urban Search and Rescue: Go Big, Go Fast</b> Instructor: Scott Chappell</p> <p>Time is of the essence! Time is the one resource that cannot be replenished and will never come back. This presentation will cover Urban Search and Rescue (US&amp;R) response during disasters, including everything from Technical Rescue Teams to US&amp;R Task Forces. While firefighters will be the first rescuers to arrive on scenes like the Kentucky tornado or the Surfside building collapse, it is crucial for fire departments to rapidly request US&amp;R teams so they can be mobilized as quickly as possible. This will get well-trained and properly equipped operators and decision-makers into the impacted areas in time to make a difference.</p>
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**Saturday, March 18  
and  
Sunday, March 19, 2023**

Choose one two-day program, or a combination of full- and half-day programs.

<p>Saturday and Sunday (2-day program) 8780-23-001</p>	<p>8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Both days</p>	<p><b>Cell Tower Safety</b> Lecture and hands-on training Instructor: Matthew Surface</p> <p>This course introduces emergency responders to communication structures and working at height. From stranded or injured workers to thrill seekers and the general public, emergency responders must be prepared to assist individuals who require rescue from elevated structures while understanding the general hazards and how to protect themselves and fellow responders. This course provides a classroom session discussing: Past Incidents that Required Rescue, Tower Structures, Fall Protection and Fall Protection Equipment, Radio Frequency Safety, Basic Tower Climbing, Rescue Equipment and Rescue Techniques. Day two consists of a practical session located on an actual cell tower site. This session provides an opportunity for first responders to use the basic equipment required to access communication structures including Personal Fall Arrest Systems (PFAS) along with climbing the tower structure. The course then evolves into rescue scenarios of a simulated worker stranded at height.</p>	<p>Prereq: Rope Rescue Operations/Technician</p> <p>Students may bring Class III harness, rope rescue helmet, and gloves. SCFA will provide this PPE if needed.</p> <p>Note: Students will be traveling off-campus for the hands-on training component of this class.</p>
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Saturday (1-day program) <b>8781-23-001</b>	8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>Rope Rescue Underway in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</b> Lecture and hands-on training Instructor: Russell McCullar	Prereq: Rope Rescue Operations/Technician
or			Students may bring Class III harness, rope rescue helmet, and gloves. SCFA will provide this PPE if needed.
Sunday (1-day program) <b>8781-23-002</b>	8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	Russell's notorious presentation on "History of Modern Rope Rescue": Presentation on modern rescue history and development of standards, NFPA 1983, myths, and misunderstandings. Summary of philosophies and practices from current thought leaders throughout the industry. Emphasis on the latest evolution and testing of rope systems and belays. Personal skills clinic on rope. Focus on rope-access techniques and tools that can be utilized for first responders for faster, safer, and more comfortable work / rescue at height. Skills include ascent, change-overs, controlled descent, work positioning, and multiple pick-off techniques.	
Saturday (1-day program) <b>8782-23-001</b>	8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>Swing Stage Scaffold Rescue</b> Lecture and hands-on training	Prereq: Rope Rescue Operations
or			Students may bring Class III harness, rope rescue helmet, and gloves. SCFA will provide this PPE if needed.
Sunday (1-day program) <b>8782-23-002</b>	8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	This hands-on program goes way beyond a pick-off rescue. Students will learn how to stabilize and level a suspended scaffold. Students will learn troubleshooting and how to lower without power. Students will execute several scenarios with and without power.	
Saturday (1-day program) <b>8783-23-001</b>	8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>Lessons Learned: Technical Rescue for Minimum Staffed Departments</b> Lecture Instructors: Jay Dixon, Patrick Doyle	Prereq: n/a
		This program will discuss considerations for minimum-staffed departments dealing with significant rescue incidents. "Are we really ready to rescue" will examine an ice water rescue close call both instructors experienced, and discuss lessons learned that will cross all rescue disciplines. This interactive program will draw upon the student experience as well, using varied experiences to enhance the program.	
Saturday (1-day program) <b>8784-23-001</b>	8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>HazMat IQ</b> Lecture and hands-on training Instructors: Federal Resources	Prereq: HazMat Technician
		Developed by responders, for responders, this is the foundational, patented system that started it all. This one-day class, taught in a straightforward easy to understand methodology, takes the typically complex world of hazardous materials and simplifies it for a street level responder. Each participant receives a set of laminated Above the Line/Below© charts which allows them to efficiently "size-up" any chemical in minutes, determining the hazards, meters, and PPE required.	
Sunday (1-day program) <b>8785-23-001</b>	8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>Biological Incidents Awareness (AWR 118-2)</b> Lecture Instructors: Will Rochester, Joshua Hemmelman	Prereq: HazMat Operations
		This course provides a brief overview of biological incidents that have occurred; biological agents that are naturally occurring, could be accidentally released, or could be used deliberately; the typical course of disease and how that may vary in a deliberate incident; an overview of biological agents as terrorist weapons; and methods of protection from biological agents (with an emphasis on protection using methods and equipment readily available to emergency responders and the general public).	
Saturday (Half-day program) <b>8786-23-001</b>	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	<b>Colormetrics</b> Lecture and hands-on training Instructors: The HazMat Guys Productions	Prereq: HazMat Technician
		In this class, students will be reviewing and discussing colormetrics in Hazardous Materials. At the end, students will gather in small groups to demonstrate the technique to use them and discuss the results found.	

Saturday (Half-day program) <b>8787-23-001</b>	1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>HazMat Instructor Development</b> Lecture Instructors: The HazMat Guys Productions  In this class, all levels of instructors will be “put to the test”. The program will begin with a 90-minute presentation on being a better instructor. Students will then move onto a short, student-led presentation that will be recorded and played back for class evaluation.	Prereq: Current HazMat Instructor Certification
Sunday (Half-day program) <b>8788-23-001</b>	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	<b>Rapid Risk Assessment</b> Lecture Instructor: Steve Coffin  This course begins with physical and chemical properties and how they relate to emergency response operations. It also covers the hazards of chemicals and associated common terms. It finishes with an overview of chemical families and the associated common hazards. Upon completion, each student will have an understanding of physical chemical properties and how they relate to emergency response. They will also gain an understanding of the hazards presented by chemicals and those associated with certain families of chemicals.	Prereq: HazMat Operations
Sunday (Half-day program) <b>8789-23-001</b>	1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	<b>Plume Modeling for ALOHA</b> Lecture and hands-on training Instructor: Steve Coffin  In this program, each student will input the meteorological data, leak information to generate a footprint, and how to plot a plume on a map in MARPLOT. Afterwards, students will learn how to interpret the results and have an understanding of ALOHAs limitations.	Prereq: HazMat Technician  Note: It is recommended that students bring their own laptop.

**Questions?** Email [amy.williamson@lir.sc.gov](mailto:amy.williamson@lir.sc.gov)

# SOCON-Special Operations Conference

March 17-19, 2023



**Registration Form: 8690-23-001**

**Registration Fee: \$50-non-refundable, billed to agency at the time of registration**

SCFID: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

FDID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department: \_\_\_\_\_

**DORM REQUEST** Dorm rooms are assigned on a first come-first serve basis. Checking the box does not guarantee a room assignment. If you are assigned a dorm room, you will be notified and billed. Do not send payment for dorm rooms with this application.

Yes, I want a **single** dorm room (\$50/night), arriving \_\_\_\_\_ and departing \_\_\_\_\_  
 No, I do not need a dorm room.

**TRAINING SESSIONS** \*Any required prerequisites must be listed on your SC Fire Academy transcript at the time of registration.\*

**Friday:** The afternoon lecture in Denny Auditorium is recommended for all attendees, with dinner to follow.

**Saturday Courses** (select the 16-hour course, one 8-hour program, or two 4-hour programs)

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8780-23-001 Cell Tower Safety (16 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8781-23-001 Rope Rescue Underway (8 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8782-23-001 Swing Stage Scaffold Rescue (8 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8783-23-001 Lessons Learned: Technical Rescue (8 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8784-23-001 HazMat IQ (8 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8786-23-001 Colormetrics (4 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8787-23-001 HazMat Instructor Development (4 hours)

**Sunday Courses** (select the 16-hour course, one 8-hour program, or two 4-hour programs)

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8780-23-001 Cell Tower Safety (16 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8781-23-002 Rope Rescue Underway (8 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8782-23-002 Swing Stage Scaffold Rescue (8 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8785-23-001 Biological Incidents Awareness (8 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8788-23-001 Rapid Risk Assessment (4 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8789-23-001 Plume Modeling for ALHOA (4 hours)

### Agreement and Waiver / Liability Release

- In consideration for participating in SC Fire Academy training, I hereby release, indemnify, and covenant not to sue the SC Fire Academy, SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the State of South Carolina, their officers, agents or employees (Releasees) as well as any other students or instructors from any and all liability, claims, cost and causes of action arising out of or related to any property damage or personal injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, while participating in such activity, or while on the premises owned, leased or used by Releasees. I acknowledge the training involves physically strenuous activities in which I am capable of fully participating. I know of no physical or mental condition that would preclude my full participation in the training.
- I certify the information on this registration form is correct. I agree to abide by the rules, policies, and regulations of the South Carolina Fire Academy. I understand falsifying information or violating rules or procedures may result in me being denied admission to the course and/or loss of course credit.
- I authorize the release of any information concerning my enrollment and completion of SCFA courses to me, my fire chief, or my department training officer.
- I understand the South Carolina Fire Academy is not authorized to provide travel, medical, nor health insurance. I verify that I (or my agency) maintain appropriate and necessary coverage, and I understand that I (or my agency) will be responsible for any medical expenses I may incur as a result of my participation in this program.
- I understand the nature of the tasks I may perform while involved in this training may require a high degree of physical fitness, agility, and dexterity, and this may include rigorous exercises which require physical fitness, strength, and stamina. I am fully aware of the risks and hazards associated with fire, rescue and hazardous materials training, including but not limited to burns, heat stroke, heart attack, heat exhaustion, falls and other related injuries, and I choose to voluntarily participate in the activity with full knowledge that said activity may be hazardous to me and my property.
- By signing this release, I acknowledge I have read and understand the Release and I **am at least 18 years of age** and fully competent and a member of a legally organized fire department, fire brigade, fire related business or emergency response organization.
- By registering for this course, I hereby give the South Carolina Fire Academy permission to reproduce and publish my name and/or photographic likeness.

Required Signatures:

Student/Date

Fire Chief or Designee/Date