



SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

SUBMIT TO

City of Vicksburg
Attn: Office of the City Clerk
P. O. Box 150
Vicksburg, MS 39181-0150

Or email:
dnickson@vicksburg.org

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE FORWARDED TO THE COMMITTEE

Organization Name: MS Fire Fighter's Association

Physical Address of the Event: 1600 Mulberry St, Vicksburg, MS

Mailing Address: PO Box 1507, Brandon, MS 39042

Telephone Number: _____

Website Address: www.mffa.com

Primary Contact Name: Chief Mark Whiteside

Title: President Telephone No: 662-539-1329

Email Address: nafd42@yahoo.com

Secondary Contact Name: Chief Jennifer Williams

Title: Secretary/Treasurer Telephone No: 662-542-0047

Email Address: jwilliams522@gmail.com

If you are applying on behalf of another organization, please provide contact information for that organization:

Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____

Telephone No: _____ Email Address: _____

Complete The Following Questions Regarding Your Request For City Sponsorship Consideration

Event Date: May 28 - June 1, 2025

(Must be between October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025)

1. Is your request for:

(Check all that apply)

☐ In-Kind Sponsorship (specify in question 6)

☒ Cash Sponsorship Amount Requested: \$ 10,000

2. Briefly state your organization's mission and purpose.

The mission of the MFFA is to establish harmony of action in the cultivation of professional development, work with various agencies to help insure fire protection and prevention for all citizens, support the various needs of the fire service personnel throughout the world who have suffered through disasters and personal injury and promote the best interest of the fire service of the state and nation.

3. Describe the event in which funds are being requested to support.

This is our annual summer conference. We offer 3+ days of training, professional development and fellowship. This is a time for our membership to come together and learn from one another as well as from outside instructors from across the nation.

4. Explain how your organization and/or event further a charitable cause, economic or community growth, or serve a public interest?

This event increases the knowledge and skill set of firefighters statewide. By gaining in this knowledge, these firefighters are better equipped to serve their communities.

5. Provide detail on how the requested funds will be used support the event partially or in full.

The funds requested will help to provide meals and facilities for our attendees. We try to make this conference cost effective for our membership. By helping with the facility fees and meal expense, this allows us this opportunity. The majority of our attendees are volunteers, and any thing we can do to help with their expenses, we try to do.

6. Select all in-kind services the organization is requesting for the event:

- ☐ a) Park and facilities fees
- ☐ b) Park Personnel (maintenance and building attendants)
- ☐ c) Police Personnel
- ☐ d) Fire Personnel
- ☐ e) Other services not listed (please specify) _____
- ☒ f) Not requesting in-kind services

7. Identify and provide all other funding requests for this event. Provide attachments if needed.

Source	Pending	Approved	Dollar Amount
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

8. Anticipated Attendance: 600+

9. Explain in detail how the event, program, or exhibition marketing plan will promote the City of Vicksburg.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

The information provided in this application is for the purpose of obtaining sponsorship funding from the City of Vicksburg on behalf of the undersigned. Each undersigned representative warrants the information provided within this application and its attachments are true and complete until a written notice of change is provided to the City of Vicksburg. The City of Vicksburg is authorized to make all inquiries necessary to verify the accuracy of the provided information.

Requestor

4/8/25
Date

Printed Name of Requestor from Above Chief Mark Whiteside

Dear Mayor Flaggs & City Council Members,

I am excited to announce the 2025 Mississippi Firefighter's Association Annual Conference, which will once again be held in the "Red Carpet City" of Vicksburg. This event is one of the most attended and sought after by first responders in our state and brings significant economic benefits to the host city.

As far back as 2017, Vicksburg has generously provided financial support of \$8,500 and up for our conferences. We appreciate this past support and kindly request consideration for similar support in 2025, as it significantly boosts the local economy and tourism.

For reference, the 2019 conference featured over fifty-five exhibitor/vendor booths, approximately two hundred vendor representatives, and 592 MFFA attendees plus guests. This resulted in a substantial number of hotel reservations and dining experiences, totaling over 430 hotel nights. The total estimated economic impact was well over \$500,000.

Furthermore, with the historical numbers we have from 2021 even after the effects of COVID on society, bringing 437 visitors plus vendors and guests. In 2022, we brought 545 members plus vendors and guests to your wonderful city, and hotel rooms were filled all over Vicksburg. This back-to-back conference was a momentous success, and our membership body was thrilled at the treatment received by Vicksburg. We expect even greater attendance for 2025 due to the unprecedented growth and interest in our association and an increase in even higher visitors at our 2025 conference, expecting a substantial positive impact on Vicksburg's economy.

Thank you for your continued support of the Mississippi Firefighters Association and our Annual Conference. We respectfully ask for your financial support for the 2025 MFFA Annual Conference, ensuring another successful event in Vicksburg.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

Chief Mark K. Whiteside

President,

Mississippi Firefighters Association