



ARIZONA FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

DRAFT ARIZONA FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, November 14, 2025

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM (Arizona Time)

Location: Professional Fire Fighters of Arizona Office, 61 E. Columbus Ave., Phoenix, AZ /
via Zoom

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Arizona Fallen Firefighters Memorial Committee was called to order at 1:00 PM by Chair Dan Freiberg. A quorum was present.

2. Opening Remarks

Chair Freiberg welcomed attendees and thanked them for attending.

3. Roll Call

Present: Dan Freiberg (Chair), Thomas Torres, Daniel Valenzuela, David Breeckner, Gordy Cunningham, Timothy Tait, and Mike Colletto.

Also Present: Crystal McCracken, Administrative Assistant; Ben Norris, Attorney General's Office/legal advisor.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approval of June 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the June 21, 2025 meeting minutes.

Motion: To approve the June 21, 2025 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion by: Gordon Cunningham

Seconded by: Mike Colletto

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of November 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the November 10, 2025 meeting minutes.

Motion: To approve the November 10, 2025 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion by: Gordon Cunningham

Seconded by: Mike Colletto

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

5. Development of Memorial Standards and Criteria

The Committee discussed the development of formal standards and criteria for inclusion on the Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial Wall.

Gordy Cunningham explained that recognition by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and/or the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland, serves as a qualifying factor for verification and consideration for inclusion on the Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial Wall.



ARIZONA FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

The Committee discussed inconsistencies regarding when names are added to the memorial wall. Members proposed adopting a fiscal year cycle (July 1 through June 30) to determine eligibility for recognition at the following January Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial Ceremony. Ben Norris confirmed this is authorized under A.R.S. § 41-1862(A)(1)–(2).

Committee members agreed that, if the need arises, a third meeting may be scheduled each year to finalize eligibility determinations prior to the annual memorial ceremony.

Committee members discussed the importance of creating a consistent process that can be applied fairly and uniformly in future years.

No action was taken.

6. 2025 Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial

The Committee discussed planning for the Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial Ceremony scheduled for Sunday, January 11, 2026.

The Committee reviewed the proposed list of names for inclusion on the Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial Wall and recognition during the January 11, 2026 ceremony.

- Patrick F. Quinn

Tucson Fire Department – Date of Death: March 2, 2025

Recognized by the International Association of Fire Fighters Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial (Colorado Springs, Colorado) in September 2026.

- Mark Keller

Mesa Fire Department – Date of Death: May 6, 2025

Recognized by the International Association of Fire Fighters Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial (Colorado Springs, Colorado) in September 2026.

- Brenna Kulikowski

Timber Mesa Fire & Medical District – Date of Death: September 14, 2025

Recognized by the International Association of Fire Fighters Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial (Colorado Springs, Colorado) in September 2026.

- Damon Thompson

Timber Mesa Fire & Medical District – Date of Death: September 14, 2025

Recognized by the International Association of Fire Fighters Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial (Colorado Springs, Colorado) in September 2026.

- Paul Shupe

Mesa Fire Department – Date of Death: September 29, 2025

Recognized by the International Association of Fire Fighters Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial (Colorado Springs, Colorado) in September 2026.



ARIZONA FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

- Glenn Collins

Timber Mesa Fire & Medical District – Date of Death: October 3, 2025

Recognized by the National Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial (Emmitsburg, Maryland) in May 2026.

Motion: To approve all firefighter names listed on the posted agenda as a group.

Motion by: Mike Colletto

Seconded by: David Breeckner

Discussion:

Committee members commented on the number of firefighters being considered for inclusion on the Memorial Wall and noted the impact of occupational cancer and job-related exposures on the fire service.

Members acknowledged the sacrifices made by Arizona firefighters and emphasized the importance of honoring those being recognized through inclusion on the Memorial Wall.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion – Future Meeting Dates

The Committee discussed scheduling its next meeting for the second half of January 2026 following the Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial Ceremony on January 11, 2026.

Committee members agreed that staff would coordinate with members to identify an appropriate meeting date and distribute scheduling information at a later date.

Ben Norris advised the Committee that he would be retiring from the Arizona Attorney General's Office at the end of 2025 and would not be attending future meetings. Committee members congratulated him on his retirement and thanked him for his service and legal counsel to the Committee.

8. Comments by Commission Members and Requests for Future Agenda Items

Chair Freiberg extended holiday wishes to all Committee members and their families for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year.

Gordy Cunningham encouraged Committee members to attend the Arizona Fallen Firefighter Memorial Ceremony on January 11, 2026. Mr. Cunningham advised that the ceremony would begin at 10:00 a.m. and would last approximately one-half hours.

Committee members acknowledged the efforts of the memorial volunteers and staff who work throughout the year to honor Arizona's fallen firefighters and preserve their legacy.

9. Call to the Public

No members of the public were present or requested to speak.



ARIZONA FALLEN FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

10. Adjournment

With no further business before the Committee, Chair Freiberg declared the meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Date Approved: _____