

Jim Wilson for VCOS Board in 2011

My name is Jim Wilson and I am seeking your support in my bid for re-election to the position of Director-at-Large for IAFC's Volunteer and Combination Officers Section. I have served in this position since August 2002 making significant contributions to the continued success of VCOS. During my Board service VCOS has become the largest as well as one of the most active and progressive sections of the IAFC.

I am a graduate of NFA's Executive Fire Officer Program and serve as Fire Chief of a 200-volunteer, 12 station County department in Mariposa CA. I also represent volunteers to California's FIRESCOPE Board of Directors. FIRESCOPE shapes California's fire service policies and procedures while overseeing one of the largest and most effective mutual aid systems in America. I began volunteering in 1971 and have worked steadily in improving safety and training programs for five volunteer and combination departments in Oregon, Washington, and California. My passion is the volunteer fire service and my dedication is to member safety, health and welfare.

During my Board tenure VCOS has published five "ribbon reports," a Guide to Managing Volunteer FLSA Compliance, Volunteer Bill of Rights and numerous position papers. I have also chaired and/or served on the Strategic Planning, Election, Scholarship and Symposium Committees. Over the past nine years Symposium in the Sun has become one of the most successful leadership educational opportunities in America. Throughout my tenure I have remained a steadfast and independent voice on the Board advocating for volunteer and combination fire service rights and issues.

Both the Western and Eastern Divisions have endorsed my candidacy. I look forward to continuing service to VCOS and completing what was started nine years ago. I ask for your vote in 2011.