

February 2, 2026

## **2026 FIRE SAFE SOUTH CAROLINA PROGRAM DESIGNATION**

Since 2017, Fire Safe South Carolina (FSSC) has partnered with the South Carolina fire service to strengthen community risk reduction (CRR) efforts statewide. Through this unified collaboration, we have worked to reduce fire-related injuries and fatalities, promote consistent life-safety messaging, improve data quality, and provide meaningful resources to support local departments.

### **2026 Program Goals, Orientation Briefings, and Resources**

To kick off the annual designation cycle, mandatory orientation briefings will begin in February. Attendance at an orientation briefing is required for all departments seeking new designation status or maintaining active participation.

Details on goals, orientation briefings, and related opportunities are available [at this link](#).

### **Staffing Update**

We are pleased to introduce FSSC's CRR Strategists, Michael Brown and Michelle Stanly, who will provide direct support to departments statewide. Regionally, Michael will support the Upstate and Lowcountry, while Michelle will support the Midlands and Pee Dee. The link above shows a breakdown of assignments by county.

We are also pleased to welcome Chief Chris Sewell into his new leadership role with FSSC. Chief Sewell brings extensive experience and a strong commitment to CRR and partnership-driven prevention efforts.

### **Unified Partnership**

FSSC remains a unified effort supported by SC State Fire in partnership with the state's four fire service associations. This collaboration continues to be the foundation of the program's success, ensuring alignment, consistency, and shared commitment to serving our communities.

### **2025 Designation Recognition**

In April, we will announce the 2025 FSSC designation results, with additional details to follow regarding recognition opportunities and formal acknowledgements.

### **Stay Connected**

We encourage departments to stay informed by visiting the [Fire Safe SC website](#) and following [FSSC on Facebook](#) for updates, resources, and program announcements throughout the year.

FSSC representatives remain available to support your department's CRR initiatives. We appreciate your continued dedication to reducing risk and improving life safety for South Carolina's citizens.