

What do fire chiefs and surviving family members have to say?

The assistance and support given to me and my firefighters was outstanding.

— MA Fire Chief

I can't say enough about the assistance the team provided to the family and our organization. We were totally overwhelmed by everything surrounding the deaths, and the team stepped in and helped us with this very important task.

— OH Fire Chief

Words cannot say what the team has done to help me and my family during our time of need. I guess one word comes to mind, "Godsend." Thank you so much.

— TN Family Member

With the loss that we had, there is no way that we could have organized everything without the team. They were very professional and I strongly recommend them.

— TX Fire Chief

Unless you have experienced such a devastating loss, it is hard to know how overwhelming this can be. I cannot begin to express our gratitude to the team for what they did for our department. Their professionalism in every aspect of the visitation and funeral services was excellent. They were instrumental in making sure everything was perfect. Our whole community commented on the impressive job of the team.

— VA Fire Chief

I cannot thank you enough for your help in facilitating the filing of the PSOB claim. I could not have done it on my own.

— WI Fire Chief

Remember:

If you have a line-of-duty death in your department,

call **LAST** first:

(866) 736-5868



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION



National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
P.O. Drawer 498
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
301-447-1365
www.firehero.org
www.EveryoneGoesHome.com

Local Assistance State
Team (LAST)
Program

What is the Local Assistance State Team (LAST) Program?

Dealing with a firefighter line-of-duty death is one of the most challenging experiences a fire department can face. Everything that happens immediately after the death affects the way the family, the department, and the community recover from the loss. Lack of resources and planning often adds to the confusion and pain.

Often, the best place for a department to turn for support is within its own state or region. Through a collaborative effort between the Department of Justice and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF), resources and training have helped establish state Local Assistance State Teams (LAST) to deploy and provide much-needed

assistance to fire departments and the firefighter's family immediately following a line-of-duty death.

The LAST are comprised of members from all areas of public safety, as well as survivors of line-of-duty deaths and volunteers from all lines of work. They are passionate about helping those who have suffered the loss of a family member or department member in the line of duty. The primary mission of LAST is to provide assistance and comfort to the family and the department after a line-of-duty death and to help with filing for federal, state and local benefits.



What assistance can LAST provide?

- Expert assistance in filing for Department of Justice Public Safety Officers' Benefits
- Onsite or remote support and guidance
- Honor guard and ceremonial support
- Information and access to behavioral health and peer support resources for family and department members
- Information and access to state and local benefits that may be available to the family and department

LAST will:

- Ensure family and department are priority at all times
- Ask before taking action
- Maintain transparency, integrity and neutrality
- Provide accurate and timely information
- Focus on mission and tasks

LAST will not:

- Self deploy
- Take over
- Take sides

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