

Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club ® Inc. Office of the Region 1 Director Matthew J. Mattera 1309 Fulton Street Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 609-846-3648 region1@redknightsmc.com

Brothers and Sisters,

Finally catching up on the End of Year Report for 2015, as it has been a whirlwind of activity. I think I'm slowly adjusting to this new position. Remember, I am here to serve you the best I can. If you need anything, I only ask that you follow the chain of command. If after doing so you can't find an answer, I'm at your disposal.

Sadly, the end of 2015 brought us the passing of a few Region 1 members. We lost John Angil of VT 2, Frank White of NH 4, Robert Lee Burger of NY 39 and Edward Thomas, Jr. of NY 14. I had the honor of attending the services of John Angil and Edward Thomas, Jr. The emotional connection with the family makes this program worth its weight in gold. They truly appreciate the efforts put forth by the International Board to acknowledge the passing of our members.

Also, as you are all aware from my last letter, I attended my first official International Board meeting in October. The next International Board meeting will be held on April 13 to 17, 2016 at the Best Western Plus, BWI Airport, 6755 Dorsey Road, Elkridge, MD 21075. If you happen to find yourself in the neighborhood, all members are welcome to attend the meetings.

I've had the opportunity to work with several chapters in resolving issues as quickly as possible in order to avoid them growing into major issues. I strongly urge all of you to make every effort to fix issues or grievances at the chapter level. It's your chapter, you have the authority as members of this organization to find solutions to your issues. I'm more than happy to provide you with any guidance you may need in order to resolve issues that arise.

Just a reminder, please ensure your chapter is using the email address supplied to you by the International, i.e. <u>nj53@redknightsmc.com</u>. We use those email addresses for all correspondence from the International, such as dues, roster info, etc. If you are having any issues with accessing your chapter email account, please let me know so I can assist you in getting this operational. Also, please remember to check your chapter roster to ensure the correct information is on it.



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I've seen numerous rosters with names misspelled, incorrect addresses, missing phone numbers and email addresses.

Over the past several months, I've learned of a couple of chapters where sadly the President of that chapter passed away. Now, the chapter does not know how to function because the President did everything. I urge you all to make the effort to ensure all of the executive board is aware how the chapter functions. I also urge every member to visit <u>www.redknightsmc.com</u>. There is a large amount of information located on our website. Some of the best resources can be reached by hovering over "Member" and then clicking "Downloadable Files". In addition to many other great pieces of information, there are 3 documents every member should read. They are the International Bylaws, Red Knights Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs), and the Red Knights Rules and Regulations. 9 times out of 10, these three documents can answer most questions raised. Check out our website, it is there for your benefit.

Lastly, I would like to report the average work hours for the end of 2015. I averaged approximately 4 hours per week on Region 1 business, for a total of approximately 84 hours in 21 weeks. I am honored to be serving you all as Region 1 Director and look forward to the rest of 2016 and into 2017. Ride safe and as always, Red Knights Forever!

Fraternally,

Matthew Mattera International Executive Board – Region 1 Director Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club, NJ Chapter 31 South Jersey Trifecta

"Loyal to our Duty"