

Garry L. Briese

Garry Briese is in his eleventh year as the Executive Director of the Colorado State Fire Chiefs representing and supporting the senior leadership of the nearly 400 fire departments across Colorado. Garry is a principal in the professional services and consulting company, Briese Associates LLC, established in 2002.

He serves on the corporate Board of Directors of WS Darley Company, an international manufacturer & distributor for the military and emergency services. He was Senior Advisor to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network; current member of the Board of the International Association of Fire Chief's Foundation, current member of the Editorial Advisory Board of FireRescue1/Fire Chief, a leading digital communications company and former member of the Board of the Colorado Emergency Preparedness Partnership, working with the private sector to increase business disaster resiliency. Garry also served on the State of Colorado's Homeland Security & All-Hazards Senior Advisory Committee for five years.

Garry served as the Local Program Integrator for the Wide Area Recovery and Resiliency Program (WARRP) for the Denver UASI. The \$14 million, 2-year program developed the first all-hazard wide area recovery framework in the nation and completed and transitioned ten significant science & technology research projects for chemical, biological and radiological response, and recovery. He was appointed as the Regional Administrator for DHS/FEMA Region 8 in the administration of President George W. Bush. Prior to DHS/FEMA, he was Vice President, Emergency Management & Homeland Security for ICF International, a NASDAQ-listed professional services corporation. Previously Garry served for 23 years as the Executive Director of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) in Washington DC and previously for 14 years as the Executive Director of the Florida College of Emergency Physicians.

Garry has presented at conferences in Japan, Israel, Germany, Belgium, Brazil, Sweden, Canada, the United Kingdom and across the United States. He is a well-known speaker on leadership and followership and on future challenges for both the private and government sectors based on his experiences in non-profit organizations, for-profit companies as well as in the local, state, national, Federal, and international arenas.

His visionary leadership and accomplishments have been recognized by multiple national organizations including the Congressional Fire Services Institute's prestigious Mason Lankford Fire Service Award, the IAFC's Emergency Medical Services Section with the James O Page EMS Achievement Award, the National Association of State Fire Marshals' Norman Mineta Excellence in Transportation Safety Award, the Lois Clark McCoy Service Award from the National Association for Search & Rescue and in 2023 was the 112th person inducted into the National Fire Heritage Center's "Hall of Legends, Legacies and Leaders" spanning the 237-year history of the American fire service. He was recognized as a "Fire Service Thought Leader and Change Agent."

Garry conceived and wrote, with review and assistance from others, the landmark booklet, *"Taking Action Against Cancer in the Fire Service"* with more than 500,000 copies distributed via print and electronic media. He is the co-author of the chapter, *"Current Concepts in Human Resource Management"* in the 7th Edition of The Fire Chiefs Handbook and co-authored the chapter *"Federal Response: Assisting without Overwhelming"* in Responding to Catastrophic Events: Consequence Management & Policies, part of the Initiative in Strategic Studies series of books. He contributed to the National Academy of Sciences report on Public Response to Alerts and Warnings on Mobile Devices, developed the National Firefighter Near Miss Reporting System and established the IAFF/IAFC Labor Management Relations Fire Service Leadership Partnership among many other significant and sustained initiatives & programs. He has co-authored three textbooks, authored multiple book chapters and many articles in professional journals. Mr. Briese has a B.A. in International Relations, a Master's in Public Administration and enjoys hiking & backpacking and downhill skiing in Colorado's Rocky Mountains

Garry Briese

571.221.3319 c

gbriese@brieseassociates.com