



BIO

H. "Butch" Browning, Jr.-Louisiana State Fire Marshal

H. "Butch" Browning, Jr. was appointed as the Louisiana State Fire Marshal on March 8, 2008. Fire Marshal Browning has a strong belief in value-driven leadership whereby he leads by example and empowers people for success. Over the past 29 years he has served in all levels of the fire service. He entered public service as a sheriff's deputy in East Baton Rouge Parish and later taught firefighting techniques as an adjunct professor at LSU. Browning also served as Fire Chief for the District 6 Fire Department in Baton Rouge, and prior to his appointment as State Fire Marshal, he proudly served as the City of Gonzales Fire Chief.

Browning has developed a paramedic ALS transport system, "Effective Fire Drills," which is a program for fire safety in schools and a fire/arson task force. Browning is a recipient of the 2000, 2006, 2008 and 2014 Roy Robichaux Legislative Award. He was also named the 1996 Louisiana Fireman of the Year by the American Legion and named District 6 Officer of the Year in 1988, 1989, 1991, and 1993.

His accomplishments include being an Eagle Scout, Past President of the Louisiana State Firemen's Association, Past President of the Louisiana Arson and Fire Prevention Association, Graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program, The Commission on Professional Credentialing Chief Fire Officer, a member of the Louisiana Fire Chief's Association, The International Association of Fire Chiefs and is a nationally registered Emergency Medical Technician. He has recently completed a four-year stint serving as the President of the National Association of State Fire Marshals.

Over the past eight years, he has led the reorganization of the State Fire Marshal's office to include cross-training of personnel, decentralizing the office to all areas of the state and the development of a modern-day data management system, which received national recognition in 2018. Current results show an increase in productivity of 40% along with a reduction in staff of 19%. His motto is "We work every day to protect safety and economic development through building friendships and trust."

Fire Marshal Butch Browning is an accomplished public speaker and has delivered the keynote address at many local, regional, state and national fire service, business and industry-related events. As a young child, he personally witnessed the destructive power of fire and is a burn victim and has since dedicated his entire life to public safety and service to his community and state in his quest to protect the lives and property of others.