

The Basics

- **Full Name & Rank:** Robert Byrd - Board Chairman
- **Original Home District:** East Central Fire & EMS Territory
- **Years of Service:** 40 Years in Fire/EMS

Professional Biography

- **Background:** Bob has been involved in the Fire and EMS service since 1975, starting out as a volunteer firefighter with Adams Township Fire Department Station 2. He became an Emergency Medical Technician in 1977 when Adams Township began providing ambulance service, and went on to hold the positions of Firefighter, EMT, Lieutenant, Captain, and PIO with the department. In addition, he has held public office as a member of the Adams Township Advisory Board and New Haven City Council, and currently serves as a member of the New Haven Board of Works and Public Safety. Throughout his time on the Township Advisory Board, City Council, and the New Haven-Adams Township Governing Body, he remained deeply involved with Fire and EMS operations. Notably, he was closely involved with establishing the first paid staff for the Adams Township Fire Department, as well as the eventual merger of the Adams Township and New Haven Fire Departments, which successfully provided paramedic-level Fire and EMS services to parts of Eastern Allen County. On a personal level, he coached girls' softball for 10 years (serving as league President for 2 years), has served as a Trustee and Finance Board member for his church, and is presently on the New Haven Events Committee.
- **Education & Certifications:**
 - Firefighter
 - Emergency Medical Technician
 - Union Safety Steward - IBEW 723

The Duties with the Unified District

- **Primary Area of Responsibility:** Serving as the Board Chairman for the East Central Fire & EMS Territory, providing administrative leadership, governance, and organizational oversight.
- **Your Vision:** The Allen County Fire and EMS District will be the premier provider of Emergency Services in Indiana. The system needs to preserve life and protect property while providing a caring emergency response to our citizens. We will be a leading emergency service provider by innovation, training, and having highly skilled firefighters and paramedics on staff. The goal is to provide consistent, high-quality

emergency response to every resident in Allen County, regardless of where they live! This all shall be accomplished while maintaining a responsible budget and a sustainable path forward, ensuring existing Townships, City governments, and existing Boards continue to be recognized and have a local voice in decision making.

- **Community Impact:** Ensuring that regional consolidation preserves local representation and community voices while elevating frontline training and paramedic-level care sustainably across every corner of the county.