



Center for
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News

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Media Contact:

Mike Higgins, CPC Program Manager

703.691.4620 | mhiggins@cpse.org

Stephen Combs Completes International Professional Designation Process

Stephen Combs has successfully completed the process that awards the professional designation of “Public Information Officer” (PIO). The Commission on Professional Credentialing® (CPC®) met on June 6, 2023, to confer the designation. Combs becomes one of only twenty-nine PIOs worldwide.

The Designation program is a voluntary program designed to recognize individuals who demonstrate their excellence in seven measured components including experience, education, professional development, professional contributions, association membership, community involvement, and technical competence. In addition, all applicants are required to identify a future professional development plan.

The PIO designation program uses a comprehensive peer review model to evaluate candidates seeking the credential. The Commission on Professional Credentialing awards the designation only after an individual successfully meets all the organization’s stringent criteria.

Achieving this designation signifies Combs’ career commitment to the fire and emergency services.

This professional designation is valid for three years. Maintaining the designation requires recipients to show continued growth in the areas of professional development, professional contributions, active association membership, and community involvement as well as adhere to a strict code of professional conduct.

The Commission on Professional Credentialing, an entity of the Center for Public Safety Excellence®, Inc., (CPSE®) administers the Designation Program. The CPC consists of individuals from academia, federal and local government, and the fire and emergency medical services profession. To learn more about CPC, visit www.cpse.org/credentialing.

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