

FireGov Consulting

There's a Third Option.

Your organization is at a crossroads.

Membership is down. The apparatus is aging. The calls keep coming. The budget doesn't add up. And someone — maybe your board, maybe the municipality, maybe you — is starting to say the word *merger*.

But merger means losing your name, your station, your history. It means years of legal process, political fighting, and community upheaval. And it still might not work.

What if there was a better way?

Introducing Joint Operational Governance (JOG)

JOG is a structured cooperation model developed by FireGov Consulting specifically for fire and EMS organizations.

It's not a merger. No one dissolves. No property is transferred. No history is erased.

Two or more organizations unite under the full financial, administrative, and operational authority of the strongest organization — the **Governing Organization**. Each organization keeps its legal identity, its building, and its own separate financial accounts.

The result: the strength of one, the resources of many.

How Authority Works Under JOG

The Governing Organization holds complete control — no committees, no split votes:

- **Financial** — Budgeting, purchasing, grants, and expenditures for all joint activities
- **Administrative** — Policies, personnel, SOGs, and board governance
- **Operational** — Command, staffing, apparatus, training, and incident response

The Governing Organization's **Fire Chief is the Fire Chief of both organizations.**

The Governing Organization's **President is the President of both organizations.**

There is **one board** overseeing both organizations.

The Participating Organization Still Has a Voice

Representation is built into every JOG agreement:

- 2 appointed Board seats
- 1 Assistant Treasurer
- 1 Captain appointment
- 2 Lieutenant appointments
- Each organization keeps its name, patch, station, and property
- Each organization keeps its own financial accounts
- 5-year term — renewable, or exitable with proper notice

Members wear their rank. They serve their community. They just do it within a structure that finally works.

The Alternative to the Alternative

Preserve your identity	■	■	■
Solve the staffing crisis	■	■	■
Keep your property	■	■	■
Keep your own accounts	■	■	■
Unified command	■	■	■
Financially sustainable	Maybe	■	■
Reversible	■	—	■

How FireGov Helps

FireGov Consulting guides your organization through every step of the JOG process:

- 1. Discovery** — Honest conversations with your leadership, board, and members. No rubric, no scoring — just a clear picture of your situation.
- 2. JOG Design** — We identify who the Governing Organization is, structure the representation model, and design the governance framework.

3. The Agreement — We draft a legally sound, state-compliant Joint Operations Agreement tailored to your organizations.

4. Implementation — We don't hand you a document and leave. We support your leadership through the transition and the first critical months of joint operations.

Who We Work With

- Volunteer fire companies
- Career and combination departments
- EMS agencies and authorities
- Regional fire and EMS services
- Municipal fire departments exploring cooperation options

All sizes. All states.

Let's Talk

The first conversation is free. No pitch, no pressure — just an honest look at your situation and whether FireGov can help.

FireGov Consulting

- [email]
- [phone]
- [website — coming soon]

Confidential. FireGov does not share client information with any third party.

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