



STATEWIDE TRAINING AND EDUCATION ADVISORY – CONFERENCE CALL VOTE

March 7, 2013 - Sacramento, California

	Member	Department	Representing	Present	Absent	Term Exp
1.	Briare, Robert	Marin Professional Firefighters	California Professional Firefighters	X		12/31/14
2.	Childress, Dennis	Orange County Fire Authority (Ret.)	SoCal Training Officers Assn. (South)		X	12/31/14
3.	Coleman, Ron	OSFM	STEAC Chair	X		N/A
4.	Connors, Jim	City College of San Francisco	CA Fire Technology Directors. Assn. (North)	X		12/31/14
5.	Hannum, Natalie	Moreno Valley College	CFTDA (South)	X		12/31/13
6.	Jennings, Mary	CFFJAC	California Firefighters Joint Apprenticeship Committee	X		12/31/14
7.	Kehmna, Ken	Santa Clara Fire Dept.	Fire District Assn. of California	X		12/31/13
8.	Myers, Ron	North County Fire Authority	League of California Cities		X	12/31/14
9.	Price, Kay	CAL FIRE	CAL FIRE Academy		X	N/A
10.	Stefano, Daniel	Laguna Beach Fire Dept.	California State Firefighters' Assn.	X		12/31/13
11.	Trauernicht, Nathan	UC Davis Fire Dept.	California Fire Chiefs Association	X		12/31/14
12.	Wagner, John	Sacramento Metro Fire District	NorCal Training Officers Assn. (North)		X	12/31/14
13.	Wagner, Ken	Roseville Fire Dept. (Ret.)	California Fire Chiefs Association	X		12/31/13
14.	Zagaris, Kim	Cal EMA	Cal EMA	X		12/31/12
15.	Vacant	Metro Chief	Metro Chief			N/A
16.	Vacant	CAL FIRE	CAL FIRE			N/A
	Alternate	Department	Representing	Present	Absent	Term
17.	Brideau, Taral	CFFJAC	California Firefighters Joint Apprenticeship Committee	X		12/31/14
18.	Davidson, Bret	Rancho Santa Fe Fire Dept.	SoCal Training Officers Assn. (South)		X	12/31/14
19.	Hoffman, Sam	N/A	California State Firefighters' Assn.		X	12/31/14
20.	Savage, Larry	Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District	NorCal Training Officers Assn. (North)		X	12/31/14

21.	Thomas, Rich	Newport Beach Fire Dept.	California Professional Firefighters		X	12/31/14
22.	Tollefson, Tennis	Sierra College	CA Fire Technology Directors Assn. (North)	X		12/31/13
23.	Turner, Tom	Victor Valley College	CA Fire Technology Directors Assn. (South)		X	12/31/13
	Staff	Department	Position	Present		
1.	Richwine, Mike	OSFM - State Fire Training	Assistant State Fire Marshall, SFT Chief	X		
2.	Rose, Kris	OSFM - State Fire Training	Manager, Certification & Instructor Registration	X		

I) Introductions and Welcome

A) Conference call vote was brought to order by Chief Coleman at 2:04 pm. Roll call was taken by Kris Rose.

II) **Discussion: IAFF Fire Ground Survival Program Equivalency**
Presenter: Ken Wagner

Ken Wagner discussed the reason for the conference call and made reference to the documents that were sent to members. Recommended action from staff is to have STEAC approve the State Fire Training's (SFT) recommendations and implementation items that are contained in the summary and analysis section of the staff report. K. Wagner then discussed the staff report. Reference was made to the STEAC meeting of October 19, 2012 and considered comments that came from a meeting of the SFT Fire Fighter Survival development cadre and the IAFF Fire Ground Survival representatives (see page 1 of report). At the conclusion of the particular discussion, STEAC endorsed an approach that stated if SFT and IAFF could agree with the comments that were brought forward that SFT should move forward with implementing equivalency.

On December 12, 2012, SFT received a communication from IAFF; a copy of the letter is also attached to the staff report. IAFF's responses to the comments were also included in this packet (see page 2 of the attachment). The three items for consideration were: Rapid Head First Ladder Escape, Emergency Hose Slide, and SCBA Emergencies. The IAFF response stated they would teach the "Hook-two/Slide-to-four" technique in California and not the rapid head first ladder escape. In regards to the Emergency Hose Slide, IAFF would not change the skill they teach while teaching the course in California, and felt more comfortable in saying that the skill they teach is a better technique. IAFF agreed to teach the SFT curriculum on SCBA Emergencies when teaching the course in California. Since the IAFF's response did not reach a complete consensus on the comments from the SFT cadre, K. Wagner scheduled a meeting with the SFT cadre on January 21, 2013. The members at the STEAC meeting held on January 18, 2013 requested that a conference call or e-mail vote be conducted prior to the next STEAC meeting of April 19, 2013 in order to take action on this issue.

K. Wagner discussed the results of January 21, 2013 cadre meeting: focused on why we were looking at the equivalency, and what was being evaluated. K. Wagner then read from page 3, 2nd paragraph, as this information is the intent of the equivalency. Students must be able to prove competency in these three areas (as determined by the SFT cadre) before the student can be successful in the RIC Operations course.

K. Wagner then mentioned the SFT analysis/summary of the issue (bottom of page 3), which is also a recommendation to STEAC. IAFF is willing to change their "Hook-two/Slide-to-four" technique when delivering the curriculum in California. There is no nationally published criteria for the "hook 2, grab four" technique; it was developed by the cadre and published in the FSTEP course. Because IAFF places significant emphasis on developing lesson plans, SFT is requesting an opportunity to look at the materials for this technique, so we can share those materials with the RIC Operations instructors to ensure that students are being prepared with

the appropriate materials to be successful in that course. The SFT cadre will assist in any development or additional work.

In regards to the Emergency Hose Slide, the IAFF is comfortable with their technique and plans not to change it. Focus of this discussion is that students who move forward with RIC need to be very established in the skills that will be used in this course that are taught in the pre-requisite courses. If we accept the course as it stands, with the Emergency Hose Slide as instructed by IAFF, the instructors in the FSTEP RIC Operations course will have to remediate those students and prepare them to be well-versed in the Hose Slide as it is taught in the FSTEP curriculum, because they are different. The Emergency Hose Slide technique, as taught in the original course, is used extensively in the RIC course. The staff's recommendation is that we would ask that the IAFF adds, as an additional technique, the FSTEP FF Survival Skill #5 Hose Slide, as an additional skill when taught in California. In this manner, both skills can be taught and students can be prepared to move successfully to the RIC Operations course and not take up any additional course time in RIC Operations to be re-mediated.

Should this process be acceptable to STEAC and IAFF, the concern will be around the development of lesson plans and supporting information to ensure that everyone is on the same page on how the technique is going to be taught.

In regards to SCBA Emergencies, the IAFF is willing to add as additional information when the course is taught in California. The SFT wants to view lesson plans and supporting materials to make sure that they are in step with FSTEP FF Survival Skill #5 SCBA Emergencies information.

The other issues are the implementation issues that need to be discussed before applying equivalency: 1) how will current IAFF instructors be updated on each of the newer modified skills/topics that will be included in the curriculum to meet the equivalency requirements, and 2) after equivalency is approved, how will students who receive IAFF certificates prior to equivalency, be remediated to gain the skills necessary to be successful in a future RIC Operations class/ K. Wagner made reference to supporting documents in this document, and is asking for STEAC to approve the entirety of the information presented.

Chief Coleman is asking members to provide input, but after a motion in made.

Motion: *Kim Zagaris moved to accept the information presented for the IAFF Fire Ground Survival Program Equivalency, Ken Kehmna seconded the motion.*

Action: *M. Jennings and R. Briare were opposed. K. Zagaris, N. Trauernicht, N. Hannum, D. Stefano, K. Kehmna, and J. Connors were in support. K. Wagner abstained.*

Chief Coleman: Abstained. He is the STEAC chairman.

K. Wagner: Abstained. He is a SFT staff member working on this issue.

M. Jennings: Opposed. Reason: because the staff recommendations are too onerous. We have taken steps in all curriculums so far to be more accepting in a variety of things; not clear on what some of those skills are. Those who would take the FSTEP class would possibly need some

more review when they take the RIC OPERATIONS class. Should be simpler and let agencies use IAFF as equivalency to get more staff in the RIC operations course, if that is the goal.

Robert Briare: Opposed. Reason: Similar comments to M. Jennings. Further points out that the IAFF has their program, but there is movement from IAFF and SFT to build cooperation and move forward on training.

Kim Zagaris: Supported (he made the motion).

Nathan Trauernicht: Supported. No Comment

Natalie Hannum: Supported. Reason: In speaking on behalf of the CFTDA, she felt that these items were very important and the report reflects that.

Dan Stefano: Supported. No comment

Ken Kehmna: Supported. If a student takes the IAFF course outside of California, but subsequent to these changes, will the remediation be on-going for those taking the course outside of California? K. Wagner responded that the assumption is that the IAFF would modify the curriculum in those areas they agreed to when course is taught in California. In the training standard for this RIC Operations course, we would list the IAFF Fire Ground Survival Program, instructed in California by IAFF, as an acceptable prerequisite. If the course was received by a student outside of CA, the course would not be accepted, because changes would not have been made to the curriculum that is delivered there because IAFF would make the changes when the course is delivered in California.

Jim Connors: Supported. No comment

Other comments: Sam Hoffman, CSFA alternate, supports the staff report. S. Hoffman did not vote since the CSFA member was present.

Chief Coleman called for the final vote:

Wagner, K.	Abstain - staff member
Jennings, M.	No
Briare, R.	No
Zagaris, K.	Y
Trauernicht, N	Y
Hannum, N	Y
Stefano, D.	Y
Kehmna, K.	Y
Connors, J.	Y

The results of this conference call vote will be placed in writing, forward to IAFF representatives and get this process moving forward.

M. Jennings as whether based on today's vote, will individuals who have taken the IAFF course in California be able to register for the RIC course? Chief Richwine responded not at this time; it is the intent to reach out to IAFF in hopes that there will be some common ground to allow students to take this course. If the changes are met and/or some remediation is provided, students could move to RIC Operations either through IAFF or FSTEP. K. Zagaris felt we should have had more members vote on this process based on the many stakeholders that we represent; there is going to be more work needed to resolve issues that may arise. Chief Coleman stated that this is an appealable decision, and although STEAC is taking action, State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) makes the final decision. STEAC is only making a recommendation and will continue to reach out to IAFF. R. Briare said there is always more than one way to do a process; we all need to get to a place to standardizing things in one place. Chief Coleman stated that this is a very important decision process; we cannot give up and we must apply more dialogue and discussion in order to come up with a positive outcome.

Chief Richwine thanked all participants, and believes we will find common ground on this issue. This item will be placed on the SBFS agenda for their May meeting. SFT will need to find a solution before that meeting; they will have about 60-90 days. We will need staff to interact with IAFF to find all possible options to remedy this. K. Wagner states that we need to communicate the analysis and summary of the issue to the IAFF and discuss. Maybe we will reach a conclusion. SFT will expedite the draft of this letter to IAFF on this issue.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m., with motion made by R. Briare and seconded by J. Connors.