



**OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
STATEWIDE TRAINING AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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Date: September 15, 2014

Attachment 5

To: Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Joe Bunn, Fire Service Training Specialist III, State Fire Training

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Community Risk Educator, Community Risk Specialist,
Community Risk Officer Standards and Curriculum

Recommended Actions: Approve the Community Risk Educator, Community Risk Specialist and
Community Risk Officer Certification Training Standards and Curricula

Background Information:

This is the second reading of the Community Risk Educator, Community Risk Specialist and the Community Risk Officer Certification Training Standards (CTS) and Course Plans that were presented at the July 18, 2014 STEAC meeting. Following discussion at the July 18, 2014 meeting, STEAC members did not request any modifications to the CTS or Curricula.

After analysis by State Fire Training (SFT), it was determined that the present curricula for Public Educator and Fire Prevention Officer did not meet the needs of the all-hazard approach to risk reduction. In 2009, under leadership from SFT, a Development Cadre of experienced fire prevention and public educators was gathered. They were tasked with developing an all-risk curriculum based on the NFPA Standard 1035, the Professional Qualifications for Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer and Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist, 2005 Edition. After much discussion by the cadre members, it was determined the curriculum should take the U.S. Fire Administration and National Fire Academy approach to risk reduction and utilize 'Community Risk Officer' as the title of the Certification Training Standard (CTS) to be in alignment with such standards. The CTS was developed in the previous format in 2009, and the project was discontinued in that same year.

In 2013, SFT established priorities to update and develop new curricula. After the approval of SFT staff, Community Risk Officer curriculum development was set as a priority. A new cadre was formed to address the Community Risk Officer program, utilizing newly established guidelines from 2012 for curriculum development and the updated NFPA 1035, 2010 edition. The development of all materials were established and completed through the ongoing contract with Sacramento State University.

Again, a designated cadre of experienced public educators and fire prevention officers were selected. Several previous members were included from the 2009 cadre to add not only their expertise, but also historical perspective. The development and validation cadres included members from a wide range of organizations. Those members included:

Cadre Leadership

Joe Bunn**, Deputy Fire Chief (Retired), Mallory Leone**, Cadre Editor, Sacramento State

Development Cadre Members

Penni Overstreet-Murphy**, Fire Prevention Specialist, San Bernardino County Fire Department, Antoine McKnight**, Battalion Chief, Los Angeles Fire Department, Karen Guillemin-Kanawyer**, Fire Prevention Specialist II, Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit, CAL FIRE, Brenda Emrick**, Community Education/Fire Administration, Costa Mesa Fire Department, Michelle Cummings, Public Education Technician, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

Validation Cadre Members

Pat Cary, Firefighter/Paramedic, Laguna Beach Fire Department, Melissa M. Kelley, Public Education and Training, Adam Beardsley, Deputy Fire Marshal, Heartland Fire and Rescue, Brian Springer, Fire Captain (Retired) and Fire Service Instructor for Mohave and Santa Ana Community Colleges

** Members who served in both development and validation

Development of the CTS and Course Plans (CP) was conducted over three separate multi-day meetings. Initially the development cadre thought that NFPA 1035 (2010) would create one CTS with multiple CPs. However, upon reviewing the content, it was discovered we had three distinct job titles within the standard that should be sectioned out accordingly. In addition, we determined that each job title (and corresponding levels of expertise) should be organized according to the level of experience required to obtain each certification. NFPA 1035 (2010) is divided into different levels for the three different job titles; they are Fire and Life Safety Educator I, II and III, Public Information Officer, and Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I and II. Each level has the subsections of Administration, Planning and Development, Education and Implementation, and Evaluation. The development cadre unanimously recommended separating the different levels of each job title into three separate CTSs to create three distinct levels of jobs certification: Community Risk Educator, Community Risk Specialist, and Community Risk Officer (in that order).

Utilizing this approach we established the following CTSs from the different levels as follows:

Community Risk Educator	Fire and Life Safety Educator I
Community Risk Specialist	Fire and Life Safety Educator II, Public Information Officer, Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I
Community Risk Officer	Fire and Life Safety Educator III and Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist II

The development of the three CTSs incorporates a series of prerequisites prior to attending each course, as per SFT standards. By design, each course builds upon itself, as do the prerequisites, so it is clear which courses are needed prior to attending the next course. Upon completion of the CTSs, the development cadre created CPs for all three job certifications. It should be noted that after much discussion the prerequisites were established following the U.S. Fire Administration and the National Fire Academy, FEMA NIMS Course, NWCG, CAL OES, and SFT standards for the all-risk standard for community risk reduction. The following are those prerequisites for the newly established courses:

Community Risk Educator (Complete Community Risk Educator after prerequisites are verified)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Prevention I • Training Instructor IA • Introduction to the Command System I-100 • National Incident Management System (NIMS): An Introduction 700
Community Risk Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Community Risk Educator Course • Training Instructor 1B • Introduction to Incident Information, NWCG S-203 • Public Information Officer Awareness, EMI Independent Study IS-289 • ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents I-200.B • Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Level I NFA-F0633 or Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention NFA-R0629 • Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior, S-190
Community Risk Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Community Risk Specialist Course • Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Level II NFA-F0634 or Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention NFA-R0629 • PIO Awareness EMI G-289 State OES Delivery • JIS/JIC Planning EMI G-291 State OES Delivery • Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior S-290 • Intermediate Incident Command System I-300

Once the Development Cadre finished their work, the Validation Cadre was formed to review and validate the content created for all three job certification levels. The Validation Cadre consisted of those members mentioned above and met for one multi-day meeting in April 2014. The Validation Cadre approved all content developed for the three new position certifications, with minor revisions and/or corrections in content. The group also revisited each course's time and prerequisite requirements. This approach was found to be consistent with the approach utilized during the initial curriculum development process.

Upon conclusion of the validation process, the Validation Cadre unanimously recommended submission of the new curriculum titled Community Risk Educator, Community Risk Specialist, and Community Risk Officer and their respective CTSs and CPs to STEAC for review and consideration as three new levels of certification. The new certifications consist of three certifications detailed below:

Certification Title	Minimum Hours
Community Risk Educator	24 Hours
Community Risk Specialist	57 Hours
Community Risk Officer	46 Hours and 30 Minutes

In addition to the course work for all three new certifications, candidates will also have to pass a certification exam and complete Task Books and Task Book Applications covering the NFPA Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) for Community Risk Educator, Specialist, and Officer. The Task Books are currently under development.

Within the development and validation process, Cadre Members included several SFT Instructors as well as adjunct instructors from community colleges in different parts of the state. In analyzing the CPs for matters of curriculum implementation and processing, it was concluded that the given timeframes for each course are minimums and are not an impediment to implementation. Significant dialogue was centered on the depth of content in the NFPA standard 1035, which resulted in creating the three separate job certifications, prerequisite courses, and time requirements for full time and volunteers to have the appropriate experience to be successful.

In addition, existing SFT courses that are or will be in the Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) catalogue may provide additional development opportunities in the future. The implementation plans for these new certifications are pending development.