



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

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**Date:** July 17, 2015

Attachment 5

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

**From:** Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

**Subject/Agenda Action Item:** Crafton Hills College Reaccreditation

**Recommended Actions:** Reaccredit Crafton Hills College as a State Fire Training Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP)

**Background Information:**

A reaccreditation site visit was conducted on April 20, 2015 at the Crafton Hills College Fire Academy in Yucaipa, California. The reaccreditation evaluation was conducted by Michael A. Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal-State Fire Training, with Michael Alder Chief, Academy Coordinator, Rick Groff adjunct faculty, and College Fire Technology Faculty Dan Sullivan participating. After initial introductions and a review of the self-assessment report, a tour of the classrooms and training facilities was conducted along with an opportunity to review course records.

It is noted that the Crafton Hills Academy is currently using CAL FIRE resources at the CAL FIRE headquarters in San Bernardino (and other locations) while a new facility is being built on campus.

In 1995 Crafton Hills was accredited as an ARTP in the SFT system. This is the first reaccreditation, and Crafton Hills continues to provide a fire academy as well as fire service training for the central and eastern portion of San Bernardino County.

During the exit interview, I was able to meet with Dr. Cheryl Marshall, College President, Brian Reece, Vice President of Instruction and June Yamamoto, Dean of Career Education and Health Services, to discuss and review SFT findings.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

A tour of the training facilities, located at Cal Fire headquarters and other locations, revealed classroom spaces with several state of the art classrooms and a fully functioning drill tower. There is considerable student movement to attend lecture and hands on training at various locations within the greater San Bernardino area. This amount of travel is not optimal, and will be reduced greatly once construction on the permanent facility is completed around the new year.

Crafton Hills enjoys a positive relationship with local fire agencies and other local training centers such as Ben Clark Training Center (Moreno Valley). Crafton Hills Academy has enough tools and equipment and staff, to conduct a Fire Fighter I Academy. According to Dr. Marshall a project is being discussed to expand the academy and establish a "regional training facility" to include public safety (Fire/Law/EMS) at one facility. There is no specific timetable for completion at this time, although during the exit interview this was a topic of discussion. There is a need identified for the Academy to increase staffing in the area of support, for a full-time secretary, especially with the increase in workload from the new SFT Fire Fighter I program. The college administration is aware of this need and is working on a solution, based on fiscal constraints.

Local demographics are consistent with the most recent census. The college is on par with most departments and other colleges with regard to demographics and the acute problem in female recruitment into the fire academy. The college has developed a short video with a former student (and probationary firefighter in a medium California fire department) to attract the most under represented group in the fire service (females).

I am confident that Crafton Hills Fire Academy will continue to meet SFT requirements, and recommend approval of Crafton Hills Fire Academy continuing as an ARTP.