



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

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**Date:** April 15, 2016

Attachment 3

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

**From:** Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

**Subject/Agenda Action Item:** Accreditation of San Francisco Fire Department as an Accredited Local Academy

**Recommended Actions:** Recommend that San Francisco Fire Department become an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training System for three years

**Background Information:**

An accreditation site visit was conducted on April 7, 2016 at the San Francisco Fire Department Division of Training located at 2310 Folsom Street San Francisco, CA 94110. The site visit was conducted by David Sprague, Berkeley FD, Wellington Jackson, Merritt College, Rodney Slaughter, State Fire Training, and Lynne Gibboney, State Fire Training. The San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD) was represented by the Director of Training, Jeff Columbini, Assistant Deputy Chief, along with Joel Sato, Training Captain and Andrew Murtagh, Technical Training Specialist. They provided a tour of their facilities as well as a tour of the Treasure Island Training Facility.

San Francisco is celebrating its 150 year anniversary. It is appropriate that SFFD become an accredited local fire academy (ALA). The department has developed the expertise to mitigate a variety of hazards found only in a city of this age and geographic location. The Treasure Island training facility has developed into a premier training location for many Bay Area fire departments and is one of a few training locations in the state that can host the complete compliment of US&R rescue classes. Cadets flawlessly demonstrated techniques for raising a 50' wooden extension ladder. The department is an all hazards and all risk agency and proficient with the number and types of emergencies they respond to.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

A tour of the training facilities reveals a wide range of classrooms, tools, equipment, props, and apparatus that can easily accommodate 55 cadets going through the Firefighter I (2013) training program. SFFD has two full-time administrative staff to support the training division. Course records along with summative test and answer keys are kept orderly and safely secured. Community outreach provides opportunities to educate and entice a diverse number of people into the profession. SFFD has one of the highest male/female ratio of any previously accredited fire academy. The site team is unequivocal about their recommendation to accredit the San Francisco Fire Department into the SFT system.