Date: May 23, 2013

To: State Board of Fire Services

From: Ben Ho
Division Chief
Fire Engineering/Arson Bomb

Subject/Agenda Action Item:
Update on proposed regulations of Title 19, California Code of Regulations regarding portable fire extinguisher program.

Recommended Actions: N/A

Background Information:
Health and Safety Code (H&S), Section 13160 requires the CAL FIRE-Office of the State Fire Marshal when adopting the regulations to consider the standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). There are new innovative products that are currently available, however, the fire tests and performance standards have not been updated to cover these new products.

It has come to our attention that several individual and/or companies have committed fraud against the consumers. This is an on-going problem with fraudulent activities throughout California which create negative financial impacts to businesses.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:
The OSFM is adopting NFPA 10 requirements into Title 19, CCR and additional national fire tests and performance standards for portable fire extinguishers.

To address the fraudulent issue, the OSFM, in co-operation with the OSFM Portable Fire Extinguisher Advisory Committee, the fire service and industry, is proposing regulations to reduce or mitigate these activities.