Date:          November 21, 2013

To:              State Board of Fire Services

From:            Ben Ho
                    Division Chief
                    Fire Engineering/Arson Bomb

Subject/Agenda Action Item:
Fire Engineering Division Update. This regular update is for information only and no action is required. Inform the board of all new and proposed regulations for Fire Engineering programs.

Recommended Actions:
Information/Discussion Only

Background Information:
The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Fire Engineering Division administers licensing programs and performs engineering functions affecting consumer services and product evaluation, approval and listing. With the addition of the Arson and Bomb Investigation unit, the division now has the overall responsibility to conduct all fire and explosion investigations on state owned and state occupied buildings. The division is responsible for 11 statewide programs, which includes the Building Materials Listing; Portable Fire Extinguishers; Flame Retardant Chemicals and Fabrics; Vapor Recovery; Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems; Fire Safe Cigarette Certification; Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA); Licensing Enforcement and Inspection; Lab Accreditation; Fireworks; and Motion Picture and Entertainment. The Fire Engineering Division’s primary functions are licensing, product approval, and licensing enforcement.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:
To support the functions of the division, there are several State Fire Marshal Advisory Committees established to provide a means of communication between the CAL FIRE/Office of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, the public and the fire service; and to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and intended future action.
The following Committees have new or proposed regulations.

1. Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) Advisory Committee: New regulations regarding the APSA.
2. Fire Alarm Advisory Committee: Proposed regulations regarding the new smoke alarm law (SB 1394 and SB 745)
3. Fire Extinguisher Advisory Committee: Proposed regulations regarding the fire extinguisher enforcement guidelines.
4. Flame Retardant Advisory Committee: Proposed regulations regarding the test standard and certification requirement.