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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

I have said on many occasions; and want to re-iterate and emphasize that the work of the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) could not be accomplished without the dedication and support of our stakeholders; primarily through the use of task/advisory groups and committees. Just since January of this year, the OSFM has worked through many vital issues of high importance to the fire service (operations, prevention and training) and the environment.

All can be assured that the process to bring forth recommendations to the State Fire Marshal is well worth the effort and time. Our thanks go out to the task/advisory group members and support staff, all who work diligently to ensure technical accuracy, editing and careful review of reports and recommendations. We can all be confident that information going forth to the State Fire Marshal, the State Board of Fire Services; and ultimately to the public via the website, reflects the high level of professional attention given to each and every subject (issue).

Over the next few weeks, three important reports will be released: 1) Phase I High-rise (Operational Considerations); 2) Water Supply Release for Fire Protection Systems; and 3) Smoke Alarms. Participation from many stakeholders provided excellent analysis of the issues and provided well conceived and thoughtful recommendations to the State Fire Marshal. I am confident that many (if not all) of the recommendations from each of these task force reports can be achieved in an efficient and effective manner.

Each person, department, company, business, and private groups who tirelessly work and provide the essential research, technology, training, education, and protection to keep our citizens safe, can be assured that we all stand together in our dedication to public safety; and we thank all for showing that commitment through their memberships on the various OSFM Task Groups and Advisory Committees.

Be safe!

TONYA L. HOOVER
Acting State Fire Marshal



Acting State Fire Marshal
Tonya L. Hoover

CODE DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS

State Fire and Building Codes CCR, Title 24, 2010 California Building Standards Code

The interim "supplement" to 2010 California Building Standards Codes is proposed to be published January 2012, having an effective date of July 1, 2012. The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has made revisions to several Parts of Title 24, the California Building Standards Code; Parts 2, 2.5, and 9 (Building, Residential, and Fire Code), for the supplement to the 2010 California Building Standards Code.

The triennial edition of the 2010 California Building Standards Codes adopts by reference the 2009 International Building (IBC) Residential (IRC) and Fire Code (IFC), and the 2008 National Electrical Code (NEC) with modifications and amendments that; corrected omissions, completed prior tasks and further augmented the adoption of the California Codes.

Modifications included in the supplement to the 2010 California Building, Residential and Fire Code included the following:

- Amendments necessary to address limitations and/or inadequacies of the adopted reference model codes and State Fire Marshal (SFM) regulations relating to exit access travel distance and firefighter operations/safety in large Group F-1 and S-1 occupancies.
- Completion of final regulations for antifreeze solutions in fire sprinkler systems that correlate with several NFPA Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA) and further made permanent existing emergency regulations.
- Amendments made that provided further clarification, correction and consistency with other SFM regulations or statutes.
- Modifications that had no change in regulatory effect or repeal of amendments that were no longer necessary had been made (statutory or editorial modifications).
- Statutory modification and/or correction of existing regulations.
- Modifications to elevator standards shunt trip and correlation with CCR, Title 8, Division 1, Division of Occupation Safety and Health (DOSH) Elevator Safety Orders for user and firefighter operations/safety.
- Editorial modification correcting code references to the appropriate California Code.
- Reprint and modification of various provisions of California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1 in the California Fire Code (CFC).

For more information about fire and building codes or information concerning fire and panic safety, visit the OSFM website www.osfm.fire.ca.gov.

To review all of the modifications made for the supplement, visit the California Building Standards Commissions web site www.bsc.ca.gov.

PIPELINE SAFETY

Hazard Liquid Pipeline Leaks Crude Oil in Huntington Beach

On July 1, 2011, at approximately 0600 hours, the Huntington Beach Fire Department responded to a crude oil spill in Huntington Beach, California. A reported quantity of 20 barrels (840 gallons) forced the closure of the southbound lanes of Golden West Street. In addition to the Huntington Beach Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Response Team, representatives from the California Department of Fish and Game and federal Environmental Protection Agency responded to coordinate cleanup activities. The CAL FIRE - Office of State Fire Marshal Pipeline Safety Division responded to investigate the cause of the release and to ensure that repairs were made according to state and federal regulations. The release was determined to have been caused by internal corrosion in a 2" pipe lateral connected to a 6" main trunk line. The 2" line was the low point and since the line was seldom used, water settled to the bottom of the line causing internal corrosion. The southbound lanes of Golden West Street remained closed over the holiday weekend to allow for remediation and repaving.

STATE FIRE TRAINING

Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) Operations Instructor Updated Classes

At the July 2010 meeting, the Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) approved the updated 24 hour Rapid Intervention Crew Operations course curriculum for statewide delivery. The RIC Operations course is designed to train fire fighters to rescue a downed fire fighter in an immediate danger to life and health (IDLH) environment and this course was developed in the continuing effort to reduce the number of fire fighter injuries and deaths that occur regularly. The curriculum cadre is working on organizing the instructor update classes for delivery in the fall of 2011.

The enrollment for these classes is available only to currently registered RIC instructors in good standing. Once the instructors have attended an updated class they will be registered to teach the new curriculum in the winter of 2012.

The RIC Operations course update is the product of a group of subject matter experts (SME) who devoted their time and efforts to make this course the finest in the nation and will save fire fighters' lives. The Office of the State Fire Marshal – State Fire Training Division extends our thanks and appreciation to the cadre: Rick Bennett, Tilden Billiter, Steve Cavallero, Alicia Hamilton, Jim Hudson, Chris Jelinek, Matt Loughran, Jeff Martinez, Jim Mathias, Glen McGuire, Dru Odil, Tom Pambianco, Jake Pelk, Gerald Pera, Jeff Seaton, Mark VonAppen, John Weber, Jon Woody; and also to those who participated in both the cadre and the pilot classes given in early 2011. All have provided valuable insight to the development and implementation of the updated curriculum.

The Fire Chief's Role in the Fire Fighter Certification Process

State Fire Training staff maintains a log-book of every Fire Chief's signature in the State along with the name and signature of the Fire Chief's authorized representative. Recently, California has experienced a large turnover of fire chief's up and down the State. This article is intended to remind current and newly appointed Fire Chiefs of the ability certification application process, and will use Fire Fighter 1 certification as the example for this article.

Fire Fighter I certification identifies the skills and knowledge necessary for the entry-level fire fighter to safely perform the tasks required of the job. This training prepares the fire fighter to perform essential and advanced fireground tasks with minimal supervision and to use, inspect and maintain fire fighting and rescue equipment. In addition, the Fire Fighter I program provides training in the skills necessary to perform basic rescue operations, fire prevention and fire investigation tasks. It is the level of certification that allows entry into all tracks of the certification system.

Fire Fighter I candidates complete the training as specified in the Fire Fighter I instructor guide (a task book) plus any additional course requirements listed on the training record. The task book becomes part of the training record and must be kept on file in the department. It is not submitted to State Fire Training.

There is an experience requirement with two options. The first option is to have a minimum of six (6) months full-time, paid experience in a California fire department as a fire fighter performing suppression duties. The second option is have a minimum of one (1) year volunteer or part-time, paid experience in a California fire department as a fire fighter performing suppression duties. Fire suppression responsibilities include the full range of suppression activities such as, hose loads, hose streams, ladders, ventilation etc.



Antelope Valley College cadets receive classroom training
(Photo courtesy of Antelope Valley College).

The Fire Chief's Role in the Fire Fighter Certification Process (continued)



Lake Tahoe College cadets receive ice-rescue training (Photo Courtesy of Lake Tahoe Community College).

Once the training is concluded and the experience requirement met, the candidate prepares and submits to State Fire Training Division, a package that includes:

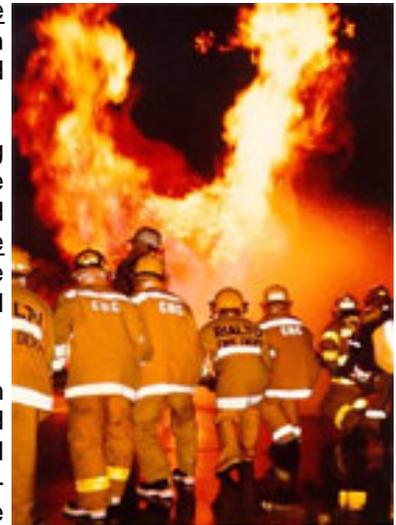
- A completed Fire Fighter I application for certification form (which the Fire Chief or his/her authorized representative must sign in which State Fire Training Staff validates the signature at the point of certification).
- The certification fee payment must be included with the application (the fee is nonrefundable).

The question often asked is; What is the Fire Chief' role in the certification process regarding Department of Defense (DOD) fire fighters? For out-of-state fire fighters, their eligibility to be certified may occur

after the candidate serves the appropriate amount of time in a California fire department. Currently the State Board of Fire Services does not accept certification from any other state as being equivalent to certification in California. However, any training received outside of California may, at the fire department's discretion, be evaluated for equivalency and recorded on the Fire Fighter I Training Record by the local fire chief or their authorized representative.

This review is conducted at the local level, and not by the State Fire Training Division. This means that a DOD Military Fire Fighter, may become eligible to be certified after they serve in a qualifying military fire department located in California. Or, the training they received outside of California may, at the department's discretion, be evaluated for equivalency and recorded on the Fire Fighter I training record. Again, this review is conducted at the local level and not by State Fire Training.

The goal for The State Fire Marshal and for the State Fire Training Division is to participate in a national accreditation system such as, the Pro-Board (Fire Service Professional Qualifications System) and/or the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC). Through national accreditation agencies such as these, State Fire Training will continue to define the certification training standards for Fire Fighter 1 as well as other levels of Fire Fighter I certification into the future.



Crafton Hills College cadets receive live-fire-training (Photo Courtesy of Crafton Hills College).