

# STATE FIRE MARSHAL

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

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The Olympics have always been a symbol of speed, strength, endurance, and commitment. These qualities go hand in hand with the fire service...even to the point where one of our own California firefighters is flying the colors with Team USA in men's cycling. But the fire service's speed, strength, endurance, and commitment is more than essential to Olympic sport, it is a requirement for the job.



State Fire Marshal  
Tonya L. Hoover

The need for **speed...** Speed for the fire service is not just about response times; it's about the ability to work quickly to accomplish the task at hand. Many times that need for speed is tied to life safety and hazard control that mitigates a potential life safety and property protection situation. Our speed

is tied to our ability to respond in a timely manner that gets us to the emergency situation safely. This allows us to do our time sensitive tasks; these tasks are directly tied to protecting our communities and providing essential risk mitigation.

When most people speak of **strength** within a fire service career, their first thought goes to physical strength- the ability to wear heavy personal protection equipment while carrying or operating even heavier tools in an environment that covers every climate and every type of hazardous space. What about inner strength? Inner strength is that strength that goes beyond the physical power but encompasses intellectual power with great resources. That inner strength provides the means for adapting and overcoming those "on the spot" challenging situations. Those situations can run the spectrum of emergency incident management to working through a code requirement that keeps a project on time while providing the best protection for the community.

The definition of **endurance** is the power to withstand hardship or stress as well as the state of surviving. The endurance of the fire service workforce can be seen not only on emergency calls but also in the efforts to work through difficult situations that affect our communities and our departments. That endurance is seen when we stay focused on our task of protecting our communities while providing a safe working environment for our workforce. Our state of surviving has taken a different meaning as we use our strength to adapt to our communities needs and show the day to day importance of the fire service.

For every athlete there is a need to commit and overcome the obstacles that challenge that **commitment**. Even with commitment there will be the need to adapt and overcome but the focus is on the end result. That end result is a

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF (CONTINUED)

dedication to profession and the communities served. Just like an athlete, we stay committed to the end result; that end result is a safer community, a community that reduces its risk for business continuous, and a safer working environment for the fire service workforce. I was recently reminded that the fire service's work environments are not just our fire stations or administration offices; they are the structures, landscapes, and highways that we commit our speed, strength and endurance to in order to make them safer and mitigate and/or eliminate an incident.

As we look back on the 2012 Summer Olympics, let's not forget those athletes that represented our country with pride, professionalism, and dignity. Let us honor their speed, strength, endurance, and commitment. For us here at home, let us not forget our fire service "athletic" qualities. These are the qualities that bring pride, professionalism, and dignity to our "everyday" Olympics.

Be safe,



TONYA L. HOOVER  
State Fire Marshal

### IMPORTANT

#### Announcement

The Office of the State Fire Marshal will be releasing the I-3 Occupancy Codes Task Force Final Report / Proposed Code Changes by September 1, 2012

#### Upcoming Meeting/Event Dates

August 29	Residential Care Class, Merced
September 20	State Board of Fire Services (SBFS)
October 19	Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC)

## CODE DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS

### The California Solar Permitting Guidebook

The California Solar Permitting Guidebook was developed by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to help improve the local permitting of small solar photovoltaic (PV systems). It was developed in partnership with a wide variety of stakeholders, including local government representatives and solar contractors. It is the "first-of-its-kind" guide that provides helpful solar permitting information all in one place.

The guidebook explains current requirements for solar PV installations, describes key steps in the permitting process, and recommends ways to improve local permitting. It also includes several template documents that local governments can customize for their own use. The guidebook can be helpful to a local agency staff, solar contractors and property owners. A customizable version of the Guidebook can be found on the [website of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research \(http://www.opr.ca.gov/s\\_renewableenergy.php#A\)](http://www.opr.ca.gov/s_renewableenergy.php#A).

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research is interested in helping local governments improve permitting of small scale solar installations. If you are a local government and would like help improving your permit process, please contact OPR Deputy Director Wade Crowfoot at 415-322-5326 or [Wade.Crowfoot@opr.ca.gov](mailto:Wade.Crowfoot@opr.ca.gov).

### *Just Another Reminder:*

### 2013 California Building Standards Codes – 2012 Title 24 Rulemaking Cycle

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), in conjunction with other State agencies, is in the process of developing and proposing Building Standards for the **2013 California Building Standards Codes**. The general purpose is intended to update and codify a new edition of the California Building Standards Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) that adopts by reference more current editions of the model codes as follows:

- Part 2 – 2013 California Building Code** – 2012 International Building Code (IBC)
- Part 2.5 – 2013 California Residential Code** – 2012 International Residential Code (IRC)
- Part 3 – 2013 California Electrical Code** – 2011 National Electrical Code (NEC)
- Part 4 – 2013 California Mechanical Code** – 2012 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC)
- Part 5 – 2013 California Plumbing Code** – 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)
- Part 9 – 2013 California Fire Code** – 2012 International Fire Code (IFC)

The intent is that the final adoption package would include amendments necessary to reasonably maintain a substantially equivalent level of fire and life safety in California. This adoption proposes to:

- Repeal the adoption by reference of the model codes and incorporate and adopt by reference in its place a more recent addition of model codes for application and effectiveness in the 2013 California Building Standards Code pursuant to Health and Safety (H&S) Code 18928. H&S Code 18928 requires any State agency adopting model codes to adopt the most recent edition,
- Repeal certain amendments to the model codes and/or California building standards not addressed by the model code that are no longer necessary pursuant to H&S Code 18930(a)(7),
- Adopt new California building standards or necessary California amendments to the model codes that address inadequacies of the model codes as they pertain to California laws,
- Bring forward previously existing California building standards or amendments, which represent no change in their effect from the 2010 California Building Standards Code,
- Codify non-substantive editorial and formatting amendments for the format based upon the more recent edition of the model codes.

Stakeholder input and participation is necessary to assist the OSFM in developing building standards. The OSFM is promulgating this rulemaking package in the continuing effort to foster additional ways and means of protecting life and property

## CODE DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS

**2013 California Building Standards Codes – 2012 Title 24 Rulemaking Cycle (Continued)**

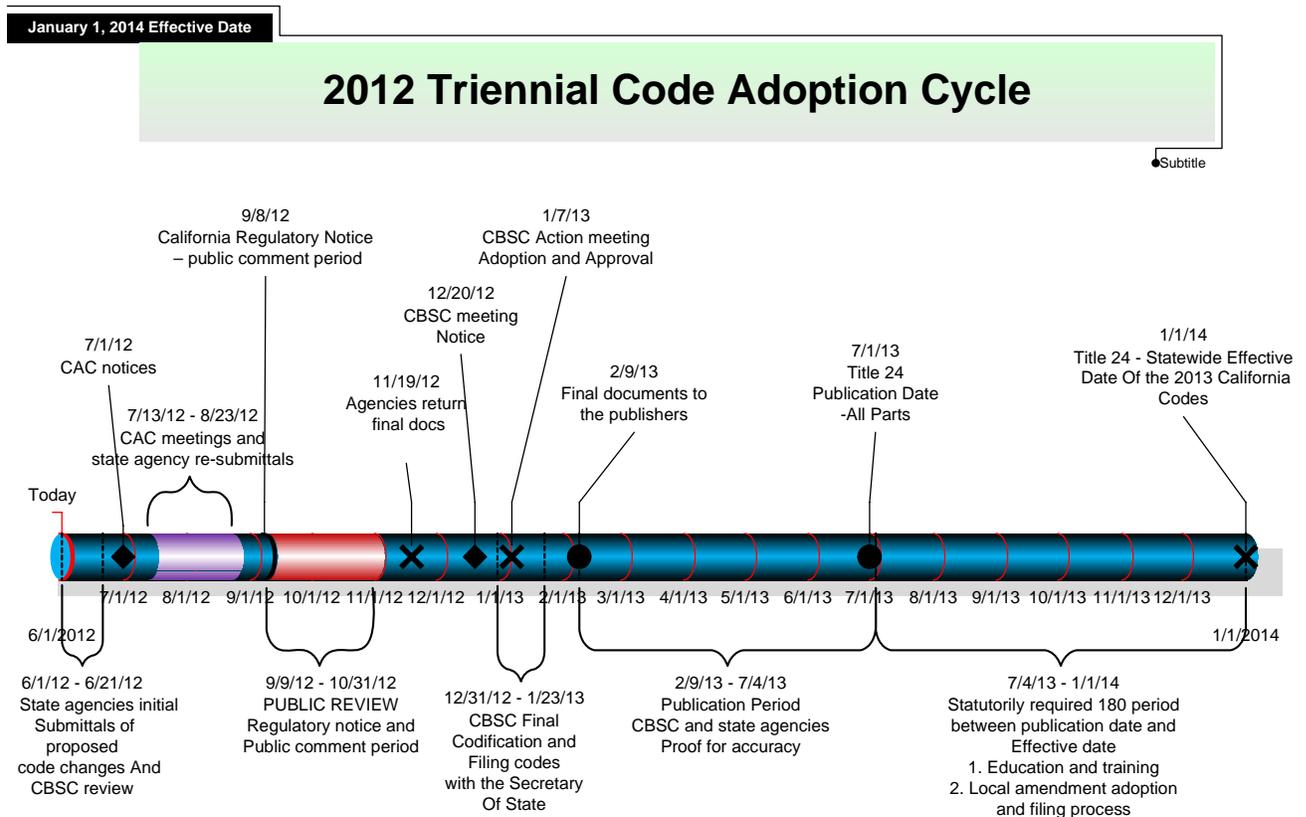
The State Fire Marshal is responsible for the coordination of the State's fire and life safety codes and must review proposed regulations of other State agencies that promote fire and panic safety before the regulations are submitted for approval. According to a timetable being considered by the State agencies, this rulemaking package is proposed for submission to the California State Building Standards Commission (CBSC) June 2012. The CBSC rulemaking process takes approximately one year to complete. The expected publication of the 2013 California Building Standards Code is July 2013 with an **effective date of January 1, 2014**.

Tentative the CBSC has scheduled the following Code Advisory Committee meetings:

- **Green Building** –August 8<sup>th</sup>
- **Building Fire & Other** –August 14<sup>th</sup>
- **Accessibility** –September 25<sup>th</sup> through September 27<sup>th</sup>

*Comment periods for the rulemaking packages will be noticed following the Code Advisory meetings.*

The following timeline has been developed to provide an overview of the actions and timeframes for the 2012 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle.



For additional information, please visit the OSFM Code Development and Analysis website:

<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/codedevelopment/codedevelopment.php>

or Visit the CBSC website:

<http://www.bsc.ca.gov/codes/adoptcycle/2012Cycle.aspx>

## State Fire Training

### The Instructor Update Class – Coming to a Location Near You!

Registered State Fire Training (SFT) Instructors must attend an Instructor Update Class (IUC) before June 30, 2014 to maintain their registered instructor status.

The kick off of the IUC occurred on June 29, 2012 in Sonoma County. The class was well attended with over 60 SFT instructors participating. The main focus of the class is to provide instructors with up to date SFT information, including the major changes in curriculum design, development, and delivery. The class starts with a history of the SFT certification system. The roots of the certification system go back 30 years and are tied to "The Study of a Fireman's Occupation," dated 1967. It is important to understand where we came from and to know where we are going in the future. We must move forward in order to meet the needs of our stakeholders.



In the discussion, new terms are introduced, such as: "Certification Training Standard (CTS)", "Course Plans", and "Certification Task Books." All future updated training programs will be tied to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards to maintain a consistent level of professional qualification. It is from the NFPA standards that California's CTS will be developed. The CTS becomes the guide for cadres to develop course plans to meet our fire service training needs in California. The CTS also contains the information needed for the development of the certification capstone task book.

The bulk of the IUC class is spent introducing the new Course Plans (CP) document. This new document will replace instructor guides as well as the Course Outlines found in the Course Information and Required Materials Manual (CIRM). The IUC will introduce to the participant-instructors the concept of "Terminal Learning Objectives (TLO)" and "Enabling Learning Objectives (ELO)." The TLO's and ELO's provide the foundation from which instructors will develop their own lesson plans, audio visual support materials, along with their own formative and summative tests.

**Important Date:** July 1, 2012 certification examinations were eliminated. Instructors are now required to develop their own formative and summative examinations.

A review of instructor requirements is covered, including how to develop a course syllabus, course processing, and where to place summative test scores on the Scantron. Since instructors are now required to write their own summative examination, the IUC is also a forum to discuss test development, the use of test planning sheets, and specifications table. These two

documents can be used to ensure that all of the objectives for the class are tested. They also ensure that the test is valid, reliable, and provides discriminating key components for test development.

Class dates and locations can be found at: [www.cce.csus.edu/SFT/InstructorUpdateCourse](http://www.cce.csus.edu/SFT/InstructorUpdateCourse). If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mark Romer at 916-316-6415 or [chiefromer@yahoo.com](mailto:chiefromer@yahoo.com).

## Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)

### Statewide Assessment of Forest Resources

In preparation for the 2015 Statewide Assessment of Forest Resources, The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Fire and Resource Assessment Program has formed a working group to lay the ground-work for the new report.

The Forest and Rangelands Assessment Steering Committee (FRASC) has formed and is inviting participation from local, state and federal agencies, non-governmental organizations and private stakeholders. Meetings will be scheduled on a quarterly basis. Discussion will include a range of issues that impact and influence forests and rangelands in California.

Please visit the website at <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/FRASC.html> or contact Rich Walker at (707) 576-8210 for more detailed information.