

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Inside this months OSFM Report:

- Message from the Chief
- Important
 - Announcements
 - Meetings
 - Classes



OSFM Headquarters
1131 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
<http://osfm.fire.gov>

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Happy New Year and welcome to 2013! The CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is already fully engaged in 2013 and this year has a special meaning to those who work or have worked for the OSFM. This year marks the 90th anniversary of the Office of the State Fire Marshal's service to the citizens of California.

Fire Chief Thomas R. Murphy of the San Francisco Fire Department is given the credit for being the driving force for legislation that would ultimately create the California State Fire Marshal. On January 29, 1923 Assemblyman Harry Morrison of the 29th District, San Francisco, introduced Assembly Bill number 409. The bill was signed by Governor Friend William Richardson on May 23, 1923 becoming Chapter 188 of the Statutes of 1923; in June of 1923, Chief Jay W. Stevens (Board of Fire Insurance Underwriters) was appointed the first California State Fire Marshal (SFM). Since the appointment of Chief Stevens, the Office of the State Fire Marshal has been led by 15 state fire marshals. The original act establishing the SFM contained only six sections. Those sections specified the timing of the State Fire Marshal's appointment after the bill was chaptered, the duties of the SFM, the reporting of arson, the power to appoint deputies, and repeal acts that are inconsistent with the new created SFM.

During the 1920's many of the legislative actions involving the State Fire Marshal centered around dry cleaning operations, and, in 1923, the first fireworks sale and use legislation was passed. With each decade a new group of fire safety challenges surfaced for the State and with each challenge the Office of the State Fire Marshal stepped to the plate to work collaboratively with the fire service and businesses in the effort to keep Californians safe from fire by reducing the fire risk. Today the CAL FIRE – OSFM continues that tradition through partnerships with the fire service, industry and business representatives, and other State agencies. The OSFM strives to instill a balanced approach to fire and panic safety within the regulations, codes and standards that are part of our statutory responsibility and work to maintain a strong supporting presents with the State's fire and building officials. Those original six sections have expanded to several statutes and the California Code of Regulations. The OSFM has expanded its fire safety involvement from just addressing the processes and construction inside a structure to include provisions to protect structures and the environment from wildland-urban interface fires.



State Fire Marshal
Tonya L. Hoover

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF (CONTINUED)

CAL FIRE – OSFM would not be able to mark ninety years of serving the State of California without the support of all our partners and stakeholders. To repeat the national fire safety campaign, “Fire Is Everyone’s Fight”, we would not be able to reduce the negative impacts of fire on our citizens, firefighting workforce, and environment without collective efforts. I look forward to sharing the activities of the Office of the State Fire Marshal as I travel throughout the State and meet with our national partners. It is with great pride that I serve as your State Fire Marshal during this time in history!

As always, be safe!



TONYA L. HOOVER
State Fire Marshal

**IMPORTANT*****Information, Meetings, and Events*****ANNOUNCEMENTS**

January 1—June 30, 2013 [Certification Name Changes for State Fire Training Fire Inspector Certification](#)

MEETINGS

- January 16 - [Fire Extinguisher Advisory Committee](#), Sacramento
- January 17 - [State Board of Fire Services](#), Sacramento (Off site)
- January 18 - [Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee](#), Sacramento
- January 22 - [Fire Alarm Advisory Committee](#), Sacramento

CLASSES

Statutes and regulations (two day classes)

[January 15 & 16, 2013, San Diego](#)

[February 5 & 6, 2013, Anaheim](#)

[March 11 & 12, 2013, Buellton, CFPI Workshop](#)

NOTE—Right click on name or date to open hyperlink for more information