

OFFICE of the STATE FIRE MARSHAL

November 2010 Report

OSFM Monthly Report

- Message from Tonya L. Hoover
- Code Development and Analysis Division
- Pipeline Safety Division

The Fireline

- Administrative Staff Update
- Updates to the SFT Web-page
- 2010 STEAC Review
- Changes to Driver Operator
- Fire Operations for Photovoltaic Emergencies



*Acting State Fire Marshal
Tonya L. Hoover*

November Message from the Chief:

This month marks the closing of the 2010 State Fire Marshal reports. It's hard to believe that we are at that point of the year when we start to gather our thoughts and accomplishments look ahead to the upcoming New Year, and look forward to joining in activities with our family and friends.

As the last OSFM report for 2010, I would like to use this month's message for a quick recap and acknowledgment of staff and stakeholder's work, energy, and dedication. The year 2010 started with our adoption of new state codes. The successful adoption of the 2010 California codes speaks to the progressiveness and commitment to public safety through a partnership with stakeholders. Whether it is the adoption of the new green building code or the residential code with residential fire sprinklers, we continue to show our desire and commitment to keeping the California environment and our citizens healthy and safe. Thank you to our partners (Cal Chiefs, the Fire Prevention Officers Sections, California Building Officials, industry, and other stakeholders) for your time, energy, and involvement. Your input and participation is important to our mission.

This year also brought its share of challenges. But with each new challenge we took the opportunity to re-evaluate, re-structure, and re-define our goals and tasks that still focus on the mission to protect our citizens and provide important services to our stakeholders.

This month also marks the time of year for remembrance and celebrations first with November 11 to honor those individuals that have served and are currently serving our country. Then we move to thoughts of celebrations and thanksgiving for our family, friends, and colleagues. May we remember to say thank you to each of them for their guidance and inspiration.

As we reflect on the lessons we have learned and the strengths we possess that will move us into 2011, let's also celebrate our hard work and important accomplishments that will continue to keep our communities safe. I look forward to seeing and working with you all in 2011.

Be safe!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tonya L. Hoover".

Tonya L. Hoover
Acting State Fire Marshal



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Code Development and Analysis Division

SFM Residential Fire Sprinkler Awareness Level Classes

As a result of the SFM Residential Task Force Concept (Phase I [Water Purveyors] - 10/09/08 thru 03/30/09, Phase II [Installation] - 04/06/09 thru 03/26/09, and Phase III [Training & Education] - 08/27/09 thru 02/11/10) the "Instructional Team" consisting of Supervising Deputy Kevin Reinertson, NFSA Regional Manager Bruce Lecair, and NAS-IP Consultant Steve Hart, embarked on a series of twenty (20) classes in strategic locations throughout California.

The five month 7,435-mile journey for each of the team members covered a geographical area from Eureka and Susanville in Northern California to Oceanside and Palm Springs in Southern California and sixteen (16) locations in between. The 4-hour classes focused on the state adoption of the 2010 California Residential Code (CRC) and addressed the background, process, adoption, related statutes and regulations, and availability of additional training opportunities. Classes were designed for the multi-disciplines of various stakeholders; Fire Officials, Building Officials, Water Purveyors, Fire Protection Contractors, Homebuilders and Developers, Architects and Engineers, and many other stakeholders.

Each attendee was given a copy of a Student Handout (86-pages), a CD (which included the power point presentation, Phase I, II, and III final reports and the student handout in pdf format), and the ability to have their questions answered. It is anticipated that a "Final Report on the SFM Residential Fire Sprinkler Awareness Level Classes" will be completed and issued by the end of the year. It is also worthy of noting that in addition to the twenty (20) scheduled classes noted above, additional presentations have been made to various groups by each of the Team Members (Kevin, Bruce and Steve); including ICC Chapters, NFSA Chapters, AFSA Chapters, and CBIA Chapters, to list a few.

We would like to thank each and everyone that assisted in the development of the training course, materials and delivery. Thank you to the Cal Chiefs NorCal and SoCal Fire Prevention Officers Association and their assistance in coordinating the class locations and the host jurisdictions for the use of their facilities and assistance with the classes.



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Pipeline Safety Division

With the recent PG&E natural gas explosion and fire in San Bruno, the State Fire Marshal's Pipeline Safety Division has received numerous requests from local agencies and fire departments for information on both natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines in their communities.

The overall responsibility for the safety of transportation of natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines lies with the US Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

In California, the State Fire Marshal has regulatory responsibility for the hazardous liquid pipelines and the California Public Utilities Commission has authority over the natural gas pipelines.

The following is a listing of websites that fire departments and local agencies can access to obtain additional information regarding pipeline in their communities.

<http://www.pipelineemergencies.com> - this link provides information on pipeline emergency response safety training. This was developed by the National Association of State Fire Marshal's (NASFM) and the US Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline> - this link will provide a broad spectrum of information such as the inspection process; enhancing pipeline safety and security; calendar of events specific to pipelines; rules of integrity management of pipelines; stakeholder communications; a library of electronic files and forms; the Federal Regulations; data and statistics on pipelines; NTSB recommendations and current Research and Development.

<http://www.commongroundalliance.com/> -this link will provide information on damage prevention to ensure public safety and environmental protection by promoting effective damage prevention practices for excavators, locators and oil, gas, utility and other operators of underground facilities.

Mapping information:

<https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov> - this link will give you access to the National Pipeline Mapping System; a public map viewer where you can find pipeline operators in your area and resources for government officials.



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<http://www.socalgas.com/safety/pipeline.html> - this link will give specific information on natural gas safety and will also provide an interactive map of Gas Transmission and High Pressure Distribution Pipelines for 12 counties in southern California.

Hazardous Liquid Pipelines:

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Program Manager: Bob Gorham 562-497-9102

Email: bob.gorham@fire.ca.gov

Natural Gas Pipelines:

California Public Utilities Commission

Program Manager: Raffi Stephanian – 213-576-7019

Email: rst@cpuc.ca.gov

Volunteer needed

The State Fire Marshal is currently looking to fill a local agency vacancy on the Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee PSAC. The committee is comprised of eight members of whom two represent pipeline operators; three represent local agencies, one as a fire chief, plus two public members. The purpose of the PSAC is to inform local agencies and every pipeline operator of changes in applicable laws and regulations affecting the operations of pipelines, and reviewing proposed hazardous liquid pipeline safety regulations adopted pursuant to Section 51011. The committee shall meet when requested by the State Fire Marshal, but not less than once a year. The members shall be paid expenses and one hundred dollars (\$100) per diem for each meeting.

If you represent a local agency and are interested in participating in issues relating to the transportation of hazardous liquid by pipeline in California, please contact Pipeline Safety Division Chief Bob Gorham at (562) 497-9102 or by email: bob.gorham@fire.ca.gov.

Appointment terms are two years and typically the committee meets once or twice a year, usually in conjunction with an industry training seminar.

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State Fire Training Division

Administrative Staff Update

This year we have added some new faces to the State Fire Training's administrative staff. Sharonya "Reene" Dorsy joined SFT in November of 2009 and has been assigned to Fire Fighter I and II certification as well as processing all FSTEPS courses into our database. In March 2010, Mark Purkeypile filled the division

support position; which is vital to STEAC, management staff, field staff; and handles special projects and research. Brandon Erickson has assumed the duties of Accredited Training Programs Coordinator, fiscal support and course processing. Kendall Fong was appointed to the Bookstore and Course Scheduling position on September 1, 2010. Continuing to provide support to our customers are Rene Barnett the webmaster; Kirsten Fonseca who conducts the certification review; Linda Menchaca who provides training and registration for instructors; CFSTES class processing is done by Susan Pineau and Angela Windtberg assists with the student records management.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns. We look forward to serving the academies, colleges, instructors and all the firefighters throughout California.

Updates to the SFT Web-page

Many academies, instructors, and students alike, find the best way to keep up with the changes in the State Fire Training System is to continually monitor the SFT web-site. "The State Fire Training web page is where I go to get the information I need," according to David Senior, Fire Technology Director for Alan Hancock College. "What I like, is that the website is easy to use and easy to navigate," according to Senior. State Fire Training continues to add new content and information to the webpage as it becomes available.

The main page contains IMPORTANT NEWS AND INFORMATION. At the top of this section is an events calendar that advertises curriculum development meetings and workshops. The calendar also spotlights the dates for the quarterly Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) meetings.



Back row left to right: Linda Menchaca, Kirsten Fonseca, Rene Barnett, Reene Dorsey, Angela Windtberg, Susan Pineau Front row left to right: Mark Purkeypile, Kendall Fong, Brandon Erickson.

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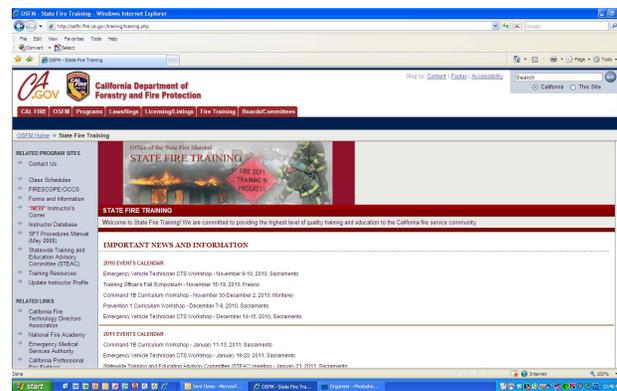
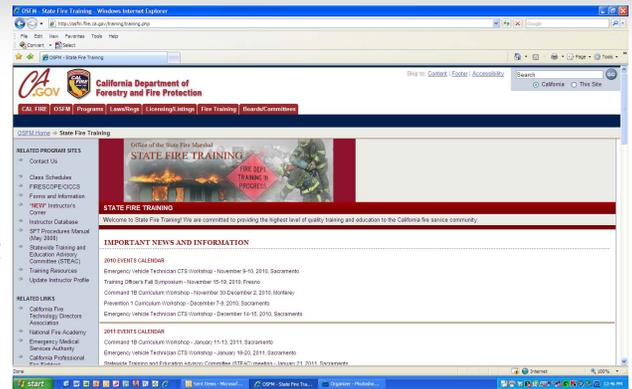
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In the left hand margin there is a link to the STEAC webpage where meeting notices and handout material is available for review and comment. This page has information on the issues, policies and directions that affect State Fire Training and, as an extension, that impact academies, instructors and students.



A recent addition to the SFT website is the "Instructors Corner." This is an area where SFT Instructors can go for materials. For training instructors, or independent curriculum workgroups, there are cognitive and psychomotor lesson plan formats that can be downloaded. Specific notices important to instructors are also posted in this area.

The most popular area of the SFT webpage is the forms and information section. This is where instructors can access accredited academies locations, approved rescue sites, certification training standards, the bookstore order form, course scheduling request forms and tasks books.

If you haven't visited the SFT webpage recently, we welcome you to bookmark <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/training.php> and visit us often.

2010 STEAC Review

The Statewide Training and Education Committee (STEAC) is designed to serve as a policy review committee for the State Fire Marshal and provide final review of all State Fire Training curricula. The committee membership consists of representatives from the following organizations: California Fire Chiefs Association; Training Officers Association; California Emergency Management Agency; California Professional Firefighters; California State Firefighters' Association; Fire District Associations of California; California Fire Technology Directors; Metro Chiefs; League of California Cities and CALFIRE.



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The committee met several times in 2010 and provided approval of the following items:

- The approval of the CA CICC Position Qualifications Guide (310-1) that will now serve as the state version of the federal 310-1. The goal is to use the new qualifications guide during next fire season.
- The approval of the Emergency Response to Alternate Fuels FSTEP course was given and the first course was administered at the Haz Mat Continuing Challenge course in September of 2010. This two-day course includes information about the new fuel cells now being used in vehicles. It was designed so delivery of the course may be taught in modules or in conjunction with an auto extrication course.
- The approval of Rescue Systems 1 and Rescue Systems 2 courses. Manuals and update classes have been provided since April of 2010. The update classes were attended by 192 RS1 instructors and 51 RS2 instructors. The course syllabus was modeled in conjunction with other programs content and expectations. Please note that Low Angle Rope Rescue Operational (LARRO) is a prerequisite for RS1.
- The approval of the company officer course outlines and the approval of the company officer certification requirements generated much discussion and is now on its way for finalization. The next step is the development of curriculum or adoption of resources to meet the content of the outlines prior to implementation.
- The approval of the Fire Fighter Survival FSTEP course. The document is available for purchase from the SFT Bookstore. The pilot course was delivered in Sacramento on January 20-26, 2010 with excellent student feedback.
- The Chief Fire Officer and Executive Chief Officer Course Outlines existing curriculum is now based on the NFPA 1021 standard and approved by STEAC.
- The proposal of Fireline Safety Awareness for Hired Vendors Course Information Required Materials (CIRM) as an FSTEP class was approved. Currently, CAL FIRE, as well as a series of community colleges, is offering classes that meet the federal requirements of Fire Safety Awareness for Hired Vendors (contractors). By adopting this CIRM, it will enable the hired vendors to receive their safety awareness training under CAL FIRE. A certificate of attendance will be issued annually.



Ronny J. Coleman, STEAC Chairperson
(right of center)

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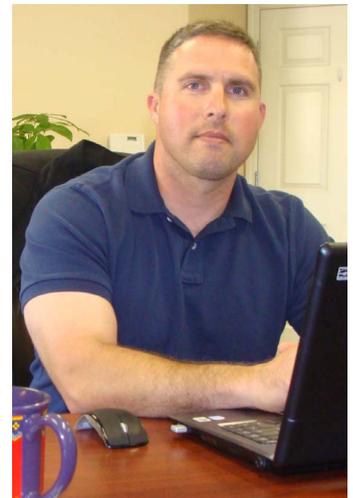
Changes to Driver Operator

Assembly Bill 1648 (Firefighter Licensing) was introduced into legislation in January, 2010, and will become effective on January 1, 2011. The bill requires a change to the current practice of driver-operator training as well as firefighter licensing. State Fire Training is working collaboratively with the Department of Motor Vehicles on identifying the issues and establishing the process under which firefighters can train and apply for their operator's license. This will require changes in the testing and application process for current and new firefighters. To monitor any changes check the SFT website frequently.

Fire Operations for Photovoltaic Emergencies

The "Fire Operations for Photovoltaic Emergencies" (FSTEP) training program will be introduced this year at the Training Officers Symposium on Thursday November 18, 2010. This training program will be led by Lieutenant Frank Cercos from San Francisco Fire Department. Frank is one of many people who have helped developed this program. He will be joined by other photovoltaic (PV) cadre members and both fire service and industry representatives who will be available to help answer questions.

The training program will provide attendees with PV concepts along with the variety of styles, configurations, and PV applications. Attendees will leave with a solid understanding of how a PV system operates and all of the associated components such as modules, racking systems, inverters, wiring harnesses, disconnect devices and battery back-up systems.



Frank Cercos, "Fire Operations for Photovoltaic Emergencies," Instructor



Important to this new program is the integration of the information into our basic fire fighting tactics and strategies. Firefighter safety is emphasized from the recognition of potential hazards, size-up, identification, communication, utility lock out/tag out and fire fighting tactics. Emphasis will be placed on roof operations and ventilation techniques. The effect PV has on interior operations, salvage and overhaul will also be highlighted.